



FRIDAY, JULY 10
SATURDAY, JULY 11
5:00 PM

**SCHWAB ACADEMY
CHAMBER MUSIC**

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SCHWAB ACADEMY CHAMBER MUSIC
ASHLEY WALTERS, DIRECTOR

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026 / 5 PM

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VENTURA COLLEGE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PROGRAM TO BE ANNOUNCED FROM THE STAGE

Welcome to our Chamber Music Concert!

Less than two weeks ago, many of these students had never met. Since then, they have worked incredibly hard in preparation for this week's concert. Along the way, they have discovered the unique challenges and rewards of chamber music, developing skills in listening, communication, collaboration, and leadership.

One of the things that makes the Schwab Academy so special is the opportunity for students to learn directly from professional musicians. Our incredible faculty have generously shared not only their musical expertise, but also their experiences as performers, teachers, and collaborators. We are deeply grateful for their time and mentorship.

As part of the Chamber Music program at the Academy, students have participated in workshops that encourage creativity, curiosity, and new ways of thinking about music. They've explored topics ranging from music theory and history to the many career paths available in music, gaining a broader understanding of what it means to be a musician today.

Next week, we are excited to welcome Kathryn Martin, President and CEO of the Santa Barbara Symphony, who will speak with our students about leadership, arts administration, and the many opportunities that exist beyond the concert stage.

We hope you'll join us again for our final Chamber Music Concert on July 17th, featuring every chamber ensemble, as well as our Orchestra Finale concert on the 18th. Thank you for being here tonight and I hope you enjoy the performance!

– Ashley Walters

[instagram.com/schwabacademy](https://www.instagram.com/schwabacademy)



Join our **Mailing List** for updates!



FRIDAY, JULY 10

Robert Pereyra, trumpet
Israel Ruiz, trumpet
Jared Geronimo, trombone,
tuba
Carlos Vargas, trombone
Ethan Nikula, trumpet
**COACHES: GWANG KIM^,
DAVID PITTEL^, JON TITMUS^**

Zech Aspinall, oboe
Sawyer Shumway, oboe
COACH: KIMAREE GILAD^

Mary Peterson, flute
Jay Lawton, flute
COACH: CAROL LOCKART^

Ann Lam, violin
Elise Louie, violin
Louis Belsito Swietnicki, cello
COACH: JULISSA BOZMAN

Henry Reineke, guitar
Mark Engel, guitar
Jacob Geronimo, guitar
COACH: CARLOS GONZALES

Alisha Kwon, violin
Giselle Duarte, violin
Sophia Pham, viola
Nathan Stone, cello
COACH: ERIKA DUKE-KIRKPATRICK

Michael Dechellis, saxophone
Ulises Vasquez, clarinet
Cooper Mckinstry, saxophone
Prisha Gordhan, percussion
COACH: BRIAN WALSH

Axel Martin, violin
Isabella Vogelaar, viola
Anna Rowlands, cello
David Wolfe, bass
COACH: ALEX FAGER

SATURDAY, JULY 11

Jaime Esparza, guitar
Seth Salinas, guitar
Yahvi Chonkar, guitar
Matthew Cho, guitar
Miles Jefferson, guitar
COACH: HUGO NOGUEIRA^

Dori Riggs, flute
COACH: NICK AKDAG^

Mark Kanchibhotla, bass
Sivani Kanchibhotla, violin
Hannah Kelley, violin
Finnegan Neilan, piano
COACH: JOHN HESTER

Garrett Stepp, violin
Sofia Ponce, violin
Susan Philbrick, violin
COACH: BARRY NEWTON^

Ryan Walker, violin
Liam Stewart, violin
Gordon Xue, cello
COACH: DIANE GILBERT

Axel Martin, violin
Isabella Vogelaar, viola
Anna Rowlands, cello
David Wolfe, bass
COACH: ALEX FAGER

Daxton Ehret, cello
Ian Lam, cello
Isaac Nicely, cello
Skyla O'Connor, cello
Naomi Sklanowsky, cello
COACH: ASHLEY WALTERS^

Prisha Gordhan, percussion
Finnegan Neilan, percussion
COACH: JORDAN CURCURUTO^

LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Ashley Walters^
DIRECTOR

Brian Hotchkin^
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PUBLIC RELATIONS**

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Jordan Curcuruto^
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**PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
ASSISTANT**

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**PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
TECHNICIAN**

Devon Thrumston
ORCHESTRA STAGE MANAGER

Kai Olmos
ORCHESTRA ASSISTANT

Dorothy Schaefer
CHAMBER MUSIC ASSISTANT

ABOUT THE ACADEMY

Made possible through the extraordinary generosity of Miriam Schwab, **Ventura College’s Miriam & Henry Schwab Academy of Music** was created to provide opportunities in chamber music and orchestra to student instrumentalists through three main components.

The **Schwab Summer Academy** is an intensive program held each July. Participants study and perform a series of concerts alongside notable professional mentors. The **Extension Program** extends this mentorship throughout the year.

The Summer Academy dovetails with the finals of the **Henry Schwab Violin & Viola Competition**, established in memory of Miriam’s late husband Henry – a celebrated concert violinist. This competition highlights talented young soloists performing concertos accompanied by the full Academy Orchestra.

Miriam – a violinist herself who played with the Ventura College Symphony Orchestra for over a decade – highly valued the importance of exceptional music instruction in our community. At the time of her passing, Miriam’s bequest made history as the largest gift ever made to a community college in Southern California.

“The Schwab Academy teaches more than just music,” says music director **Ashley Walters**. “It teaches students the value of hard work, collaboration, and perseverance. Just as importantly, it provides a supportive community where students of all ages can learn from one another, build lasting friendships, and gain the confidence to pursue their dreams.”

SUPPORT



Miriam Schwab’s passion for music and her generous support of student musicians made the **The Schwab Academy of Music** possible. If you would like to help us strengthen and grow Miriam’s vision for the Academy, please consider making a donation through the Ventura College Foundation. For more information, contact **Director of Development, Pete Parker**.

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SPECIAL THANKS

Luca Lewis
Anthony Mansueto
Brent Wilson
Jamie Birkett
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Andrea Rambo
Jeanne Tanner