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USC THORNTON FACULTY, ALUMNI TO PARTICIPATE IN
GUITAR FOUNDATION OF AMERICA CONVENTION

The five-day affair brings together some of the most acclaimed classical guitarists for workshops, masterclasses and performances.

June 20-25, 2014 at California State University, Fullerton

LOS ANGELES (June 4, 2014) – Faculty and alumni from the USC Thornton School of Music Classical Guitar program are among the invited guests and performers at the 2014 Guitar Foundation of America (GFA) Convention, which will take place June 20-25 at California State University, Fullerton.

The convention draws approximately 600 of the world's most elite performers and scholars, promising young players, and large numbers of devoted enthusiasts. Attendees participate in lectures, hands-on workshops, masterclasses, various showcases and several concerts.

This year’s convention is hosted by Martha Masters, who earned her DMA in Classical Guitar at USC Thornton, and Vladimir Gorbach, a current DMA student and one of USC’s International Artist Fellows. Both Masters and Gorbach are previous winners of the GFA International Concert Artist Competition, a highlight at the yearly convention.

Faculty Brian Head is Artistic Director of the GFA and will be master of ceremonies for the week-long affair. Faculty William Kanengiser and Scott Tennant will offer private lessons to selected guitarists throughout the course of the convention, and will also perform with their ensemble, the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet (LAGQ), on Saturday, June 21. The world-renowned LAGQ is known as one of the many successful performing ensembles founded while its members were students at USC.

Other scheduled performers include: Ana Vidovic, Paul O’Dette, Tilman Hoppstock, and Jorge Caballero.

The Guitar Foundation of American (GFA) is the world's largest organization devoted to the classical guitar, with members spanning the globe. The organization publishes a scholarly
journal, supports research and education in the field, commissions new works, and perhaps most prominently, produces an annual International Convention & Competition, held in a different city each year.

For further information about the 2014 Guitar Foundation of America Convention, please visit guitarfoundation.org

**Convention Details:**

Date: June 20-25, 2014

Location: California State University, Fullerton

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**ABOUT THE USC THORNTON SCHOOL OF MUSIC**

For more than 125 years, the USC Thornton School of Music has prepared students to excel as performers, composers, industry leaders, and educators on stages and in studios around the world. Founded in 1884 and today the oldest continually operating cultural institution in Los Angeles, USC Thornton is internationally recognized as one of the finest conservatories and music schools in the U.S.

By blending the rigors of a traditional conservatory-style education with the benefits of a leading research university, USC Thornton offers a curriculum designed to prepare students for successful careers in the 21st century.

Located in the heart of Los Angeles, USC Thornton offers students every advantage of studying, performing, and networking in the world’s most vibrant music industry center. Every week, students engage with leading professionals in all aspects of the music, recording, and entertainment industries, and collaborate with such pillar organizations as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, LA Opera, Los Angeles Master Chorale, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Grammy Foundation and The Recording Academy. Thornton students are also a constant presence in local classrooms, helping to shape the next generation of musicians.