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.

USC Thornton brings together a stellar faculty chosen from a broad spectrum of the music profession and gifted students representing 40 countries. The school features legendary musicians and educators on its faculty, including internationally renowned performers, musicologists, and winners of prestigious awards.

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 while collaborating 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.
Ambrose Akinmusire  
Piotr Anderszewski  
Miguel Atwood-Ferguson  
Alan Baer  
Peter Boyer  
Calder Quartet (Benjamin Jacobson (violin), Andrew Bulbrook (violin), Jonathan Moerschel (viola), Eric Byers (cello))  
Lucinda Carver *  
Billy Childs  
Rozzi Crane  
Gerald Clayton  
Daedelus (Alfred Darlington)  
Grant Gershon  
Rod Gilfry *  
Jerry Goldsmith  
Donald Green  
Ben Hong *  
Sara Gazarek *  
Ludwig Göransson  
Los Angeles Guitar Quartet (John Dearman, Matthew Greif, William Kanengiser *, Scott Tennant *)  
Lionel Hampton  
Marilyn Horne  
James Horner  
Tommy Johnson *  
Vimbaiy Kaziboni  
Michelle Kim  
Morten Lauridsen *  
Owen Lee  
Ryan Lerman  
Charles Lloyd  
Petar Mandich  
Michael Ke Ma  
Martha Masters  
Bear McCreary  
Angela Meade  
Erica Miller  
James Newton Howard  
Andrew Norman *  
Christopher Parkening  
Gretchen Parlato  
Dwight Parry  
Norm Pearson  
Cynthia Phelps  
Gene Pokorny  
Vicki Ray  
Lee Ritenour  
Jessica Rivera  
Daniel Rothmuller  
Elizabeth Rowe  
Patrice Rushen *  
Royce Saltzman *
(CELEBRATED ALUMNI CONTINUED)

Gail Samuel ............................................. executive director, Los Angeles Philharmonic Association
Tom Scott .................................................. jazz saxophonist
Nadia Shpachenko-Gottesman .................. pianist
Dale Hikawa Silverman ................................. associate principal viola, Los Angeles Philharmonic
Cheryl Staples ........................................... associate concertmaster, New York Philharmonic
Michael Tilson Thomas ................................. conductor, San Francisco Symphony
Sunny Yang ............................................. cellist, Kronos Quartet
Cody Westheimer ......................................... film composer
Austin Wintory .......................................... composer
Lorna Zemke ............................................... music educator
Michele Zukovsky * ..................................... former principal clarinet, Los Angeles Philharmonic

* denotes USC Thornton faculty
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music.usc.edu/press