

# **University of Southern California**

## **Thornton School of Music**

### **Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in Jazz Studies**

#### **Program Learning Objectives**

##### **Jazz Studies (M.M.) and (D.M.A)**

The graduate degrees in Jazz Studies will continue to prepare students to create art and further their own artistic voice as evinced in careers in jazz performance and in jazz education.

Graduates of the program are successful as artists, often forming their own bands or joining established ensembles. Upon completion students will:

- a. have the knowledge and technical skill to perform jazz music in solo, small combo, and larger ensemble settings at a professional entry level;
- b. demonstrate an understanding of the jazz canon and the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> c. jazz repertory;
- c. have the ability to take aural dictation of music, make transcriptions, and to analyze musical harmony and structure;
- d. be able to work as a leader and in collaboration in areas of musical interpretation and performance;
- e. have an understanding of the societal impact of music and the ethical responsibility of a professional musician;
- f. have the ability to engage in life-long learning;
- g. have the practical, technical and historical knowledge to communicate their values and understanding of music to the world at large.

##### **Doctor of Musical Arts**

This degree represents the highest level of expertise in a major field of musical practice and competence in several additional areas. Students choose an academic field from among Musicology, Theory and Analysis, Music Teaching and Learning, Choral Music or Sacred Music in addition to two elective fields to complement their major field. In addition to the objectives above, graduates will also:

- a. gain the pedagogical tools to teach at the collegiate level in their chosen instrument and in jazz studies;
- b. gain cross-disciplinary knowledge to teach introductory collegiate courses in their academic field;
- c. demonstrate achievement of extraordinary professional competence in jazz studies, and develop a unique artistic/intellectual voice;

- d. develop a comprehensive knowledge of and ability to communicate about the broader music field through the lens of jazz.