



CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

COMMENCEMENT 2026

Saturday, the sixteenth of May

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Saturday, the sixteenth of May | Eleven o'clock in the morning

PROCESSIONAL

Rondeau..... Jean-Joseph Mouret (1682–1738)
Festal March Florence Price (1887–1953)
Todd Wilson, organ

WELCOME

Paul W. Hogle, President | CEO

MUSICAL PROGRAM

Tromba (1983) Ulysses Kay (1917–1995)
Prologue
Nocturne
Mobile
Jamie Walton, Jr., trumpet
Jackson Naglick, piano

Napoli, FP 40..... Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)
III. Caprice Italien
Jakob Aumiller, piano

“A Lucky Child” Jake Heggie (b. 1961)
from *At the Statue of Venus* (2005)
Caroline Friend, mezzo-soprano
Grace Betry, piano

String Quartet No. 1, Op. 20..... Alberto Ginastera (1916–1983)
I. Allegro violento ed agitato
Andromeda Quartet
Ella Golden, violin
Timothy Pinkerton, violin
Seth Goodman, viola
Megan Kamysz, cello

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Leonard Slatkin, Honorary Doctor of Musical Arts Degree Recipient

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

Paul W. Hogle

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Scott Harrison, Executive Vice President & Provost

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES, DEGREES, & DIPLOMAS

Dean Southern, Vice President for Academic Affairs & Dean of the Institute

Jennifer Call, Senior Associate Dean

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACADEMIC HONORS

Dean Southern

PRESIDENTIAL CHARGE

Paul W. Hogle

RECESSIONAL

Toccata from Organ Symphony No. 5.....Charles-Marie Widor (1844–1937)

Todd Wilson, organ

ARIA TEXT

“A Lucky Child”Libretto by Terrence McNally (1938–2020)
from *At the Statue of Venus* (2005)

At night we dream of love, of loving and being loved like when we were children; if we were lucky, as I was. I knew my parents loved me and I loved them. I felt safe and protected. I knew that morning would always come. And I knew I was loved. Oh God, I was a lucky, lucky child.

Sunday night dinners over at Grandma’s, we’d all be together; playing piano, singing along, not in tune or too much in measure. Wrestling with cousins, the stories we’d share, the night Randall kissed me. Then, pretending to sleep in the car riding home with my father and mother; wanting to hear the secrets they’d share. But mostly, just wanting to be carried upstairs in my father’s arms, then he’d kiss me and say: “Good night, my little pumpkin. Sleep soundly, my little love. Angel from heaven. Star from above.” And I’d sleep.

That love is what I’m seeking, to feel again I am safe and protected, to wake each morning filled with hope, and to know I am loved. Oh God, I was a lucky, lucky child.

YOUNG ARTIST PROGRAM CANDIDATE

Piano

Miaochen Yu

GRADUATE DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

Collaborative Piano

Ellen Rie Boll

Jialin Wang

Jingyi Zhang

Double Bass

Henry Girard

Jacob Adam Weichert

Saxophone

Malik Nowlin

Viola

Ho Cheung Gordan Liu

Violin

Hiroka Matsumoto

Voice

John Joseph Haney

Calysta Tamara Jacobs

Kiana M. Lilly

ARTIST DIPLOMA CANDIDATES

Clarinet

David Chang

Piano

Jakob Max Aumiller

BACHELOR OF MUSIC DEGREE CANDIDATES

Bassoon

Alton J. French

Clarinet

Xiang Tao Ke

Composition and Music Theory

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Double Bass

Calder Stephen Carey

Matthew Joseph Morgan

Double Bass and Music Theory

Hao-Wei Tsai

Flute

Lara Elizabeth Tsibelman

Guitar

Yijie Huang

Oboe

Sebastian J. Kelzenberg

Erin Yijung Yun

Organ and Music Theory

Carolyn Wilkens Hoff

Piano

Ryan Jihoon Chun

Ming Gao

Curtis Li

Jiani Liang

Jackson Boyle Naglick

Aidan E. Purtell

Jingwen Wei

Yao Xiao

Timpani and Percussion

Jacob Myung-Chul Chang

Trumpet

Elijah Christian Leonard

Jamie Jaye Walton

Tuba

Adam Joseph Hinojosa Lindsey

Viola

Joshua Felser

D'aci Nicole Knight

Grace Marie Leonard

Nilli Tayidi

Aubrey Jacqueline Williamson

Violin

Blake Zachary Armstrong

Jeremy Kendall Foster

Ella Danielle Golden

John-Paul Michael Hernandez

Tsung Han Hsieh

Rhianna Mackenzie Lingle

Violoncello

Adam Michael Brann

Fiona Faye Tsang

Andrea Wang

MASTER OF MUSIC DEGREE CANDIDATES

Clarinet

Weichien Huang

Collaborative Piano

Jiaxuan Bao

Te Zhang

Double Bass

Kai-Che Chen

Shih-Chi Luo

Flute

Dylan Masariego

Harp

Rita Taylor Kaiulanipomaikai Dunn

Horn

Ethan Duane Hahn

Oboe

Sara Elizabeth Brown

Organ

Hunter Michael Peterson

Piano

Yilin Du

Jinyi Hu

Ziqi Su

Mengyao Sun

Kelai Yang

Dongqin Yu

Alice Tan Zhang

Lanyi Zhang

Yide Zhang

Ruiya Zhong

Timpani and Percussion

Sebastiao Cameira Sheldrick

Trombone

Shiv Dev Love

Jerry Wang Min

Viola

Seth Goodman

Katherine Erin Snelling

Violin

Chak Him Joshua Chan

Paula Antonia Sastre Nino

Ying Wang

Violin and Suzuki Pedagogy

Amelia Constanze Korbitz

Abigail Macy

Violoncello

Ren-Jer Jong

Jacqueline Legris Pegis

Xinran Zhang

Voice

Davis Christian Fischer

Caroline P. Friend

Yutong Ge

Yifei Huang

Xinyue Li

Morgan Elizabeth Potts

Isabella K. Sobkowicz

Yi Ching Ariel Wong

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS CANDIDATES

Collaborative Piano
Grace Betry, *January 2026*

Piano
Hung Phi Nguyen
Jingyu Xu

Organ
Davis Casey Badaszewski

Viola
Christopher Joseph Gokelman

This program constitutes a list of students expected to have completed all degree requirements for graduation; it is not a certification of degrees earned.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Leonard Slatkin

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Kathryn Harsha (MM 1999)

ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Rebecca Shasberger (MM 2017)

In addition to the students we honor today, CIM recognizes the following students in the Academy who are graduating from high school and have successfully completed the requirements of the program.

ACADEMY AT CIM

Double Bass
Travis Phillips

Violoncello
Kiana Pierce

Piano
William Massaro

Voice
Tony Fitzgerald
Rhea Singh

Viola
Sage Woods-Cooper

HONORARY DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS DEGREES

Goddard Lieberson, 1965

William S. Newman, 1986

Alain Coblenze, 2002

Robert Shaw, 1966

C. K. Patrick, 1986

Dr. Deforia Lane, 2002

Darius Milhaud, 1967

Ernest Fleischmann, 1987

Robert J. Harth, 2003

Peter Ustinov, 1968

Marie Marin Jaczko, 1987

Karel Paukert, 2003

Ivan Galamian, 1968

Klaus George Roy, 1987

Carola Bamberger, 2004

Harold Spivacke, 1969

Eleanor H. Biggs, 1988

David Bamberger, 2004

Boris Goldovsky, 1969

Hale Smith, 1988

Pierre Boulez, 2005

Gregor Piatigorsky, 1970

Christoph von Dohnányi, 1988

Richard W. Pogue, 2006

Sir Robert Mayer, 1970

Edward Gordon, 1989

Barbara S. Robinson, 2006

Witold Lutosławski, 1971

Madeleine Milhaud, 1989

Jaime Laredo, 2006

Marian Anderson, 1972

Lionel Nowak, 1989

Gary Graffman, 2007

Greer Garson, 1973

Ward Davenny, 1990

Franz Welser-Möst, 2007

Edward N. Waters, 1973

Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, 1990

Kay Hardesty Logan, 2008

John O. Crosby, 1974

James D. Wolfensohn, 1990

Jerome Lowenthal, 2008

Grant Johannesen, 1974

Leon Fleisher, 1991

David Cerone, 2009

Mildred Natwick, 1974

Kurt Masur, 1991

Frederica von Stade, 2009

Tossy Spivakovsky, 1975

Lyndon Woodside, 1991

Tony Bennett, 2010

Roger Sessions, 1975

John Mack, 1992

Itzhak Perlman, 2011

George London, 1976

Henry Roth, 1992

Toby Lynn Perlman, 2011

Gunther Schuller, 1977

Alice Chalifoux, 1993

Van Cliburn, 2012

Marcel Dick, 1978

D. Antoinette Handy, 1993

Dr. José Antonio Abreu, 2013

John Edwards, 1978

Lynn Harrell, 1994

Robert Mann, 2014

Walter Anderson, 1979

Sidney Harth, 1994

A. Malachi Mixon III, 2015

Henry Z. Steinway, 1980

Louis Lane, 1995

Claire Chase, 2016

Frank E. Taplin, 1981

Dr. Howard Gardner, 1996

Robert Vernon, 2017

Maurice Abravanel, 1982

Anton Kuerti, 1996

Ann Hobson Pilot, 2018

Gaby Casadesus, 1982

Jack L. Renner, 1997

Richard Weiner, 2019

Josef Gingold, 1983

Robert Conrad, 1998

Michael Tilson Thomas, 2020

Mildred Miller Posvar, 1983

Harvey Sachs, 1999

Susan McClary, 2021

Donald Erb, 1984

William B. Woods, 1999

Peter Sellars, 2021

Risë Stevens, 1984

Noriyuki "Pat" Morita, 2000

Jennifer Koh, 2022

Karel Husa, 1985

Dave Brubeck, 2001

Joseph H. Conyers, 2025

Elly Ameling, 1986

Joseph Silverstein, 2001

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CIM's highest honor bestowed on an individual who has made historically significant, unique, or exemplary contributions and has played a defining role.

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^*ex-officio*
**deceased*

As of April 23, 2026

ABOUT THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

The Cleveland Institute of Music empowers the world's most talented classical music students to fulfill their dreams and potential. Founded in 1920 with composer Ernest Bloch as director, it is among the small group of independent conservatories devoted exclusively to classical music performance.

CIM's campus – in the world-class center of innovation in healthcare, education, and arts and culture known as University Circle – offers an incomparable environment for learning, study, and artistic development. Students and faculty engage with partners including The Cleveland Orchestra, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Institute of Art, and other cultural, educational, and community organizations to create classical music that is as vibrant and varied as the city of Cleveland.

CIM's graduates command the most celebrated and revered stages in the world as soloists, chamber musicians, and ensemble members; compose meaningful, award-winning new repertoire; produce Grammy-winning recordings; and are highly sought-after teaching artists, administrators, and thought leaders.

The school's collegiate and pre-college student bodies benefit from access to world-renowned visiting artists and conductors, intensive study with CIM's stellar faculty, and the rich curriculum offered by CIM's partner Case Western Reserve University. This broad tapestry of talent and experience uniquely positions CIM as the future of classical music and fosters in students the skills and mindset necessary for a seamless transition into a professional career.

A leader among its peers, CIM is the largest presenter of free performances, masterclasses, and community concerts in the Midwest, hosting hundreds of events each year on campus and at locations nationwide.

Explore cim.edu to learn more.



CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

11021 East Boulevard | Cleveland, OH 44106