

For Immediate Release
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Green Music Center Announces 2024–25 Season in Weill Hall & Schroeder Hall

(Sonoma County, CA) — The Green Music Center at Sonoma State University announces its 2024–25 concert season, featuring 28 performances from October 2024 through May 2025. The new 2024–25 Season includes performances by world-renowned violinist Joshua Bell (*Feb 6*), acclaimed vocalist and champion of The Great American Songbook, Michael Feinstein (*Oct 6*), Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash (*Oct 26*), and more. Green Music Center Executive Director Jacob Yarrow states, “It is my pleasure to announce our captivating new season of performances at the Green, featuring today’s most memorable artists alongside fresh sounds and performers to discover. This season’s thoughtfully curated programming encompasses a wide array of genres and musical styles rooted deeply in cultural traditions from around the globe.”

The 2024–25 Season begins with a heartfelt tribute to Tony Bennett by acclaimed vocalist Michael Feinstein (*Oct 6*). The Australian Chamber Orchestra make their Weill Hall debut performing a transformed version of Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons* inspired by the vibrant crossroads of East and West (*Oct 11*). Multi-platinum artist Andy Grammer presents an intimate solo performance of some of his biggest hits and personal favorites (*Oct 12*). One of the most ambitious and literary songwriters of her generation, Rosanne Cash brings her distinctive vocals to the Green Music Center (*Oct 26*).

Other highlights include eminent pianist Emanuel Ax performing Beethoven’s Moonlight Sonata (*Oct 24*), and *Encanto*: The Sing-Along Film Concert where a live band will play the music of *Encanto* while audiences watch the full film (*Nov 21*). Later in the year, the Green Music Center presents several holiday shows including Adonis Rose & the NOJO7 performing holiday music in an energetic New Orleans style (*Dec 14*), and acapella sensation Kings Return in a holiday performance showcasing their signature harmonies (*Dec 19*).

The second half of the season includes a performance by the iconic violinist Joshua Bell and soprano Larisa Martínez (*Feb 6*); the warm, soulful sound of Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Gaby Moreno in Weill Hall Loft (*Feb 1*); the enchanting sounds of Hawaiian music from slack-key guitarist Keola Beamer (*Feb 8*); jazz pianist Jason Moran reimagining the music of Duke Ellington on the 125th anniversary of his birth (*Feb 15*); Third Coast Percussion and pre-eminent classical tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain in a major new work (*Mar 1*); Ghana born multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and dancer Okaidja Afroso (*Mar 6*); YAMATO: the Drummers of Japan (*Mar 15*), and more.

Subscription packages to these performances and many more will go on sale to the general public on Tuesday, June 4 at 10 a.m. To view the full listing of performances visit gmc.sonoma.edu.

WHEN TO PURCHASE TICKETS

Season Subscriptions

- **\$1,000+ Donors:** May 28 at 10 a.m.
- **2023–24 Season Subscribers:** May 29 at 10 a.m.
- **General Public:** June 4 at 10 a.m.

Single ticket on sale date TBA

Green Music Center
2024-25 Season
Weill Hall | Schroeder Hall | Weill Hall Loft

Michael Feinstein in *Because of You*
My Tribute to Tony Bennett
featuring the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band
Sunday, October 6, 2024 at 7 p.m.
Weill Hall
\$60–\$145

Michael Feinstein pays heartfelt tribute to the legendary Tony Bennett, bringing his iconic songs to life with the Carnegie Hall Jazz Band. The performance features hits such as "Because of You," "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," "I Get a Kick Out of You," and many more. Feinstein's close friendship with Tony Bennett adds a profound layer to this tribute, as his dynamic interpretations create an unforgettable night that honors the legacy of Tony Bennett in all its glory.

Supported in part by The Gables Wine Country Inn.

Party for the Green

Celebrate Opening Night at the Green Music Center!
Prior to Michael Feinstein's captivating performance, join us for a delightful reception and dinner at Prelude, both inspired by the legendary Tony Bennett. Your presence contributes to our programming, which (as the song says) is possible "Because of You."

\$500/person (includes concert)
Tables of 10 start at \$5,000
More information at gmc.sonoma.edu

Australian Chamber Orchestra
The Ottoman Four Seasons

Richard Tognetti, Director and Violin
Joseph Tawadros, Oud

James Tawadros, Riq' & Bendir
Friday, October 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
Weill Hall
\$40–\$100

Step into the enchanting world of Vivaldi's timeless masterpiece as you embark on a captivating journey through the sounds of Venice, his beloved home city. Inspired by the vibrant crossroads of East and West, the Australian Chamber Orchestra skillfully intertwines *The Four Seasons* with the mesmerizing sounds of the oud (an Arabic lute) and the riq (a traditional tambourine). Prepare for an unforgettable fusion of classical elegance and rhythmic vitality that promises to enchant and inspire.

Andy Grammer

Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
Weill Hall
\$50–\$110

Emmy award winner and multi-platinum artist Andy Grammer returns to Weill Hall for an intimate solo performance of some of his biggest hits along with his personal favorites. Experience the signature songwriting, melodic craftsmanship, and captivating storytelling of one of today's most inspiring artists in a special stripped-down setting.

Supported in part by Oxford Suites.

Emanuel Ax, piano

Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.
Weill Hall
\$40–\$100

The eminent pianist Emanuel Ax returns to the Green for an exquisite recital of masterpieces by Beethoven, Schumann, and Corigliano. Hailed as "one of the finest American pianists" by *The New York Times*, Ax's illustrious career boasts Grammy Awards and prestigious competition prizes. His enduring partnership with Yo-Yo Ma spans decades, a testament to his unparalleled artistry. Experience the magic as Ax mesmerizes with Beethoven's iconic "Moonlight Sonata" and more.

Beethoven: Sonata Op. 27 No. 1 Quasi una Fantasia
Corigliano: Fantasia on an Ostinato
Beethoven: Sonata Op. 27 No. 2 Quasi una Fantasia "Moonlight"
Schumann: Arabeske
Schumann: Fantasie in C, Op. 17

Supported in part by Oliver's Market, Freeman Vineyard & Winery, and Willow Creek Wealth Management.

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Rosanne Cash

Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall
\$50–\$120

“One of the most ambitious and literary songwriters of her generation” (*Rolling Stone*), Rosanne Cash is America’s foremost musical woman of letters, a literate and incisive artist whose poignant and distinctive vocals turn every song into a revelatory tale. A singular artist at the peak of her interpretive powers, Cash has earned four Grammy awards and 12 additional nominations. Among many other accolades, in 2021 she became the first woman to receive the Edward MacDowell award for music composition, and is one of only a handful of women to be elected to the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Supported in part by The Press Democrat and Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards.

Sonoma Guitar Series

Gabriel Bianco, guitar

Friday, November 8, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Schroeder Hall

\$25–\$35

Prepare to be enchanted by Gabriel Bianco, one of today’s finest classical guitarists. Born in Paris, he began his musical journey at age 5 and has since performed in over fifty countries and prestigious venues worldwide. Bianco, winner of multiple international competitions, brings unparalleled passion and precision to every performance. In addition to his solo work, Gabriel has been a member of the chamber music ensemble Quatuor Eclisses since its creation in 2012, and recently released a record with Mezzo-soprano Marina Viotti.

Vanessa Sanchez & La Mezcla in

Ghostly Labor

Thursday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$80

A new evening-length work by Vanessa Sanchez y La Mezcla, *Ghostly Labor* seamlessly blends tap dance, Mexican zapateado, and Afro Caribbean dance with live music and captivating video. Featuring an all-female dance company, spoken word, traditional *son jarocho* music from Veracruz, Mexico, and an Afro-Latinx percussive score, this dance theater production delves into the rich history of labor in the US-Mexico borderlands. The powerful storytelling sheds light on the experiences of farm workers and domestic workers throughout California, generations of unseen laborers, and the joy of collective resistance.

Encanto: The Sing-Along Film Concert

Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$40–\$100

Experience *Encanto: The Sing-Along Film Concert*, where a live band plays the music while we all watch the full film. *Encanto* lovers of all ages have the opportunity to sing along with their

favorite Grammy Award-winning songs like “We Don’t Talk About Bruno” and “Surface Pressure.” Fans are encouraged to dress up as their favorite characters from the film and to use their voices to transform each venue into one big celebration of the Madrigal family.

Supported in part by Clover Sonoma and Oxford Suites.

Adonis Rose & the NOJO7

A Crescent City Christmas

Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$90

The celebrated New Orleans Jazz Orchestra’s NOJO7 presents *A Crescent City Christmas* - holiday music done with New Orleans style. Bring the family for a night of your favorite holiday songs alongside some NOLA classics.

Founded in 2002, the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra celebrates the American Jazz portfolio with an emphasis on developing the New Orleans Jazz scene. Led by Grammy-winning drummer and Artistic Director Adonis Rose, the NOJO7 is a dynamic seven-piece band drawn from the full orchestra. Playing within the New Orleans brass band style, the group is known for their versatility and high energy performances.

San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus presents

Holiday Spectacular 2024

Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 5 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$117

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is back at the Green Music Center with *Holiday Spectacular 2025*. As SFGMC launches their 47th season dedicated to bringing communities together, this concert combines their musical excellence with a cavalcade of favorites across multiple genres and cultures. Be prepared for their signature hilarity, dancing, and heartwarming seasonal cheer. The event sells out every year, so get your tickets early.

Tickets will be available for purchase as single tickets only.

This event cannot be included in any subscription.

Kings Return: *Holiday Show!*

Thursday, December 19, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$90

Vocal group Kings Return have earned a loyal following for their dynamic and utterly smooth a cappella sound that has earned comparisons to iconic acts Take 6 and Boyz II Men. Since 2020, their gospel style has evolved to incorporate elements of R&B, jazz, pop, and soul. They defy the constraints of genre, exploring a wide range of sonic shades and textures while blending expansive harmonies with agility and effortless skill.

With their first holiday recording, entitled *We 4 Kings*, Kings Return continue to defy expectations, charming audiences with their signature smoothness on songs like “This Christmas” and “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year.”

Supported in part by The Press Democrat.

New Century Chamber Orchestra

Daniel Hope, music director and concertmaster

Inon Barnatan, piano

Aaron Schuman, trumpet

Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 3 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$40–\$100

Renowned pianist Inon Barnatan joins Daniel Hope and New Century Chamber Orchestra for a program of profound and emotionally charged music. Distinguished as one of the few conductorless chamber ensembles in the world, New Century is celebrated for concerts of remarkable precision, passion, and power.

CPE Bach: Keyboard Concerto No. 3 in D minor, H. 420

Shostakovich: Piano Concerto No. 1 in C minor, Op. 35

Bartók: Divertimento for String Orchestra

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines.

Gaby Moreno

Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall Loft

\$35–\$55

Armed with a warm, soulful sound, singer/songwriter Gaby Moreno offers an intoxicating invitation into her musical world for English and Spanish speakers alike. Since moving to Los Angeles from her native Guatemala, she has released 7 albums, earned multiple Grammy nominations, and won two Latin Grammys. Moreno has shared the international stage with pop music luminaries such as Bono, Andrea Bocelli, Tracy Chapman, Ani DiFranco, Punch Brothers, Hugh Laurie, Buena Vista Social Club, Calexico, David Gray, and many more. Through her various projects, Moreno has redefined Americana as the only prominent Latina in the genre today, opening the doors for other marginalized voices and transforming the landscape overall.

In addition to her critical acclaim within the music industry, Moreno has amassed a long list of accolades within the TV and film worlds. Most famously, she co-wrote the seminal theme song for cult classic TV show, ‘Parks and Recreation.’

Moreno is also a champion for immigration rights and social issues. She was recently named the first UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador from Guatemala. She is focused on mentoring young female artists and creatives.

Voice and the Violin

Joshua Bell, violin and Larisa Martínez, piano

Thursday, February 06, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$60–\$145

Soprano Larisa Martínez and violinist Joshua Bell present a new concert program, *Voice and the Violin*, an evening of beloved romantic arias and modern classics. The married couple said, "Our concept for this program began during the pandemic, while we were quarantined and finding new ways to collaborate and enjoy music together. Although finding repertoire written specifically for violin and voice can be a challenge, we discovered and fell in love with these gems."

Grammy Award-winning violinist Joshua Bell is one of the most celebrated artists of his era, having performed with virtually every major orchestra in the world. Puerto Rican opera singer Larisa Martínez has graced many of the world's top opera and concert stages.

Supported in part by Freeman Vineyard & Winery and Willow Creek Wealth Management.

Keola Beamer & Jeff Peterson with Moanalani Beamer

Saturday, February 08, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$80

Experience the enchanting sounds of Hawaiian music as slack-key guitar legend Keola Beamer and versatile guitarist Jeff Peterson present an evening of superb guitar and rich and soulful vocals. Explore the beauty of Hawaiian music, reflecting the essence of its native islands and Hawai'i's many cultural influences. They are joined by lovely hula dancer Moanalani Beamer, who brings hula and Hawaiian chants to the stage, and adds musical texture with ancient Hawaiian instruments. With a rich repertoire of original songs and slack key classics, Keola, Jeff, and Moana stand as some of the most respected performers in Hawai'i.

Supported in part by Sonoma-Cutrer Vineyards.

Jason Moran

Duke Ellington: My Heart Sings

Saturday, February 15, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$90

Known for his incomparable talent and innovative approaches, jazz pianist Jason Moran brilliantly reimagines the timeless music of Duke Ellington in a concert that will make your heart sing. Moran embarks on a solo piano ascent up "Mount Ellington" in an extraordinary celebration of Duke's enduring legacy on the 125th anniversary of his birth. Moran has established himself as a trendsetter for new directions in jazz. *Rolling Stone* calls him "the most

provocative thinker in current jazz.” It’s that incomparable talent and unyielding drive towards innovation that earned Moran a prestigious MacArthur “Genius Grant” and the title of Kennedy Center Artistic Director for Jazz.

Supported in part by Freeman Vineyard & Winery.

Third Coast Percussion & Zakir Hussain

Saturday, March 01, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$40–\$100

Witness a groundbreaking collaboration as the pre-eminent classical tabla virtuoso of our time, Zakir Hussain, joins forces with Grammy-winning ensemble Third Coast Percussion. Zakir has written a major new work that seamlessly blends the mesmerizing sounds of tabla with the precision of a classically-trained percussion ensemble. A shared spirit of collaboration and curiosity reverberates among the five artists who will share the stage and celebrate the extra musical possibilities in the world of percussion.

Supported in part by Cartograph Wines.

Okaidja Afroso

Thursday, March 06, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$80

A multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and dancer, Okaidja Afroso hails from a family of musicians and storytellers from the fishing village of Kokrobite on Ghana’s west coast. Often performed in his native language, Afroso’s genre-defying songs convey a whole spectrum of experiences—joy, harmony, tragedy, and hope—that embrace what he calls “the rich complexity of the integrated world we inhabit.” Through his distinctive style, Afroso explores the perseverance of ancestral traditions and creates a new, contemporary African oral tradition.

YAMATO

The Drummers of Japan

Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$40–\$100

YAMATO tours the world from their homebase in the village of Asuka, which is said to be the birthplace of Japanese culture. With the meticulously crafted sound of over 40 taiko drums of varying sizes and sounds, YAMATO evokes a range of emotions on stage. Sometimes intense, sometimes sad, sometimes comforting, and in the next moment comical, their original performances always entertain and inspire.

Supported in part by Oxford Suites.

Naghash Ensemble

Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$80

Led by Armenian-American composer/pianist John Hodian, the Naghash Ensemble combines the earthy spirituality of Armenian folk song, new classical music, contemporary post-minimalism, and the energy of jazz and rock. Three brilliant female vocalists and some of Armenia's finest instrumentalists on duduk, oud, dhol, and piano play new music based on sacred texts by the medieval Armenian mystic poet and priest, Mkrtych Naghash.

Sonoma Guitar Series

Andrea González Caballero

Saturday, March 29, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Schroeder Hall

\$25–\$35

Known as “the female voice of the Spanish guitar,” Andrea González Caballero is a laureate of multiple prestigious international competitions. This rising star of the classical guitar will perform music from her latest album *Reencuentros*, which features the Spanish composers Isaac Albéniz, Manuel de Falla, and Manuel López-Quiroga.

Nikole Hannah-Jones**The H. Andrea Neves and Barton Evans****Social Justice Lecture Series**

Thursday, April 3, 2025

Weill Hall

\$30 General Admission | Free to SSU students, faculty, and staff

“Black Americans have always been foundational to the idea of American freedom,” says Nikole Hannah-Jones. She’s the Pulitzer Prize-winning creator of *The 1619 Project*—the #1 *New York Times* bestselling book and 2024 Emmy Award-winning Hulu docuseries—as well as the co-author of the *1619 Project* children’s book, *Born on the Water*. A MacArthur Genius and one of *TIME*’s most influential people in the world, this *New York Times Magazine* staff writer has spent her career proving that when we understand the history of Black America, we understand the history and the future of *all* America—which makes us better equipped to fight for racial justice and democracy today.

Free Family Day with Tia Leah's Neighborhood

Saturday, April 05, 2025 at 2 p.m.

Weill Hall + Grounds

Tia Leah's Neighborhood is a fun and engaging multi-media performance that incorporates movement, music, participation, and joy. Tia Leah and her band celebrate diversity and community through storytelling, song, and curiosity to help us think about how each individual

impacts the world. Leah is a movement practitioner, medicine keeper, singer and songwriter, mami of two, and advocate for wellness justice.

Family Day will have a festival feel with food trucks, workshops by local artists, and a variety of activities led by Sonoma State education students for children of all ages.

Supported in part by Exchange Bank and Sonoma Clean Power.

Mrs. Krishnan's Party

Indian Ink Theatre Company

Wednesday & Thursday, April 9 & 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall Loft

\$45 General Admission

A night of immersive theater and fun where you'll step into the back room of Mrs. Krishnan's store. Garlands decorate the ceiling, music flows, and Mrs. Krishnan is throwing a party like no other. Food simmers on the stove, laughter abounds, and strangers become friends in this joyous celebration of life.

The audience will gather on the Weill Hall stage to watch the actors juggle cooking, music, and guests in an unfolding drama where no two nights are the same. Stellar performers Kalyani Nagarajan and Justin Rogers have reviewers singing their praises and global audiences leaping to their feet in appreciation.

Supported in part by Sonoma Cutrer-Vineyards.

Jordi Savall with Hespèrion XXI

Music of Fire & Love

Friday, April 18, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$40-\$100

Jordi Savall is one of the most versatile musical personalities of his generation. For more than 50 years, he has rescued musical gems from the obscurity of neglect and oblivion and given them back for all to enjoy. His activities as a concert performer, teacher, researcher, and creator of new musical and cultural projects have made him a leading figure in the reappraisal of historical music.

Jordi Savall's ancient music ensemble Hespèrion XXI recovers and disseminates the rich and fascinating musical repertoire prior to the 19th century. Their exquisite performances enable people to freely enjoy the aesthetic and spiritual delicacy of the works of this period.

Isaac Mizrahi

Thursday, April 24, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30-\$90

Best known as a fashion designer, Isaac Mizrahi is a multi-talented star of stage and screen. He's also an accomplished singer and entertainer with a rich history in the performing arts. This energetic cabaret show features classic songs, hilarious banter, and a six-piece jazz band.

Isaac Mizrahi has worked extensively in the entertainment industry as a performer, host, writer, designer, and producer for over 30 years. The *New York Times* noted, "he qualifies as a founding father of a genre that fuses performance art, music and stand-up comedy." He is the subject and co-creator of *Unzipped*, a documentary following the making of his Fall 1994 collection which received an award at the Sundance Film Festival. He served as a judge on Project Runway: All-Stars for the series' entire seven-season run.

Supported in part by Balletto Vineyards.

Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band

Friday, May 9, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

Weill Hall

\$30–\$80

The Julia Keefe Indigenous Big Band is an ensemble of Native and Indigenous jazz musicians from across Indian Country. Performing pieces from their under-appreciated predecessors in jazz, like Mildred Bailey (Coeur d'Alene) and Jim Pepper (Kaw/Mvskoke), alongside works by contemporary Indigenous composers, the band spotlights a vibrant, long-standing tradition of Indigenous improvised music today. Led by the celebrated vocalist and luminary Julia Keefe (Nez Perce), the ensemble brings charisma, passion, and purpose to every stage, leaving audiences both inspired and educated.

About the Green Music Center

The Green Music Center is the performing arts center at Sonoma State University, a regionally serving public university committed to educational access and excellence. As a cornerstone of Sonoma State University's commitment to the arts, the Green Music Center is a place to witness artistic inspiration through year-round programming, serving as home to the Sonoma State University Music Department, the Santa Rosa Symphony, and Sonoma Bach.

The mission of the Green Music Center is to present the most compelling artists of our time, to investigate ideas, and to provide access to diverse artistic experiences that educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State University and neighboring North Bay communities.

Built to bring together artists, students, families, music-lovers, and more, the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University is a gathering place for our diverse communities in Sonoma County to explore and enjoy the things that move and inspire us. The center includes the 1,400-seat Weill Hall, with a rear wall that opens to lawn seating for a unique summertime experience, and the intimate 240-seat Schroeder Hall.

About Sonoma State University

Located in California's premier wine country one hour north of San Francisco, Sonoma State is

a small campus with big ideas. With a tradition of promoting intellectual and personal growth, leadership opportunities and technological proficiency, SSU offers its students a friendly, safe and informal atmosphere on a beautiful campus setting. One of the most requested campuses in the CSU system, SSU is regularly named a “Best Regional University” by U.S. News & World Report.

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[View artist photos](#)