

**U-M Life Sciences Orchestra | Spring 2026 Concert**  
**Nicholas Bromilow, M.M., the Drs. Spindler & Juran Music Director**

[Nicholas Bromilow](#) is a British conductor based in Michigan, USA. His work has been shaped by a commitment to presenting classical music in imaginative settings and reaching audiences beyond traditional concert halls. In his hometown of Bristol, he founded several ensembles dedicated to this aim, leading performances in venues including Motion Nightclub, beneath the wings of Concorde at the Aerospace Museum with Resonance Orchestra, and in the underground vaults of Temple Meads Station with the Insight Ensemble.

Next month, Nicholas will complete the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Michigan. During his studies he has served as Music Director of the Life Sciences Orchestra, the Michigan Pops Orchestra and the Campus Philharmonia Orchestra. His operatic work has included guest conducting engagements with the Department of Voice and Opera, leading productions of Kevin Puts' *Elizabeth Cree* and Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, as well as conducting the University of Michigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society's *HMS Pinafore*. He has also worked as cover conductor with both the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Jackson Symphony Orchestra. Recent engagements include founding and conducting a newly formed ensemble for a full ballet production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* with the iBallet Studio at the Power Center, alongside a guest appearance with the Prince George's Philharmonic in Washington, D.C.

Prior to U-M, Nicholas studied at Kent State University as Graduate Assistant in Orchestral Conducting and Conducting Fellow of the Kent State University Chorus, graduating with full scholarship and stipend. During this time he made conducting debuts with the Cleveland Women's Orchestra and the Cleveland Heights Chamber Orchestra, and attended major conducting festivals including the National Music Festival and the Eastern Music Festival.

Nicholas's earlier career in the United Kingdom included conducting posts with numerous choirs and orchestras across the country, alongside guest appearances with ensembles such as the Bristol Ensemble and Cardiff Philharmonic Orchestra. He has worked with conductors including Sir Simon Rattle, Marin Alsop, Edward Gardner and Esa-Pekka Salonen, and has performed in leading venues including London's Royal Albert Hall, the Barbican and Southbank Centre, as well as Severance Hall in Cleveland and the KKL Luzern Concert Hall in Switzerland.

Nicholas is deeply grateful and honored to have served as Music Director of the Life Sciences Orchestra, and this concert marks his final appearance with the ensemble in this role. He extends his heartfelt thanks not only to the outstanding musicians of the orchestra, but also to the dedicated board members, volunteers and supporters whose generosity of time and spirit has made the organization's work possible. He looks back with great pride on the past two and a half years and the many memorable performances achieved together.

Nicholas is also sincerely thankful to the UMS Choral Union for their collaboration on this significant work from the English choral repertoire, and to the three exceptional soloists whose artistry has enriched this project. He departs with great confidence in the orchestra's artistic future and looks forward to seeing it continue to grow, inspire and bring ambitious musical ideas to life in the years ahead.

## **Michael Roest, Assistant Conductor**

[Michael Roest](#) is a conductor, educator, and arts leader whose work centers on building inclusive musical communities and championing new voices in classical music.

As Founder and Director of the International Pride Orchestra (IPO), he has created a platform for LGBTQ+ musicians worldwide to perform, connect, and advocate. IPO has presented concerts in San Francisco, New York City, and Washington, D.C. collaborating with drag artists Peaches Christ and Thorgy Thor to raise funds for organizations including LYRIC, SAGE, and Whitman-Walker.

Roest's conducting and teaching have taken him across a range of institutions and ensembles. At the University of Michigan, he serves as Associate Music Director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra and Assistant Conductor of the Life Sciences Orchestra. He served on the conducting faculty of the San Jose Youth Symphony and created the first Pre-College Contemporary Music Ensemble at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. At the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, he taught brass studies and directed the Oberlin Brass Ensemble. He also served as Executive and Artistic Director of the Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra. His administrative roles include Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Dean and Executive Director of Pre-College and Continuing Education at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Roest holds degrees from The Juilliard School and Oberlin Conservatory and is currently pursuing a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting at U-M with Professor Kenneth Kiesler.

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## ***Scott Hanoian, UMS Choral Union Music Director***

[Scott Hanoian](#) is the music director and conductor of the University Musical Society Choral Union where he conducts and prepares the Grammy award-winning chorus in performances with the world's finest orchestras and conductors. Choruses prepared by Mr. Hanoian have sung under the batons of Yannick Nézet-Seguin, Leonard Slatkin, Ivan Fischer, Dennis Russell Davies, and Osmo Vänskä.

Mr. Hanoian is active as a conductor, organist, lecturer, continuo artist, accompanist, choral adjudicator, and guest clinician. He is the director of music and organist at Christ Church Grosse Pointe, where he directs the church's four choirs and oversees the yearly concert series. Mr. Hanoian has served on the faculty of Wayne State University and Oakland University and was the artistic director and conductor of the Oakland Choral Society from 2013–2015.

As an organist and conductor, Mr. Hanoian has performed concerts throughout the US and has led choirs on trips to Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, France, and Spain. Most recently, Mr. Hanoian led the Christ Church Choirs during weeklong residencies at York Minster, Durham Cathedral, Salisbury Cathedral, Wells Cathedral, St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and Westminster Abbey.

Before moving to Grosse Pointe, Mr. Hanoian was the assistant organist and assistant director of music at Washington National Cathedral where he played the organ for many services including the funerals for Presidents Ronald Reagan and Gerald Ford. Mr. Hanoian has recorded the complete organ works of Johannes Brahms for the JAV label.

## **Guest Soloists**

### **Tyrese Byrd, *Tenor***

[Tyrese Byrd](#) is a native of Greenville, South Carolina. Recent performances include Ubaldo in Haydn's *Armida* with Opera NEO and the Hungarian State Opera, Prologue/Peter Quint (*The Turn of the Screw*), Pluton/Aristée (*Orphée aux Enfers*), and Miles (*Proving Up*) at the University of Michigan, Police Buddy 1 (*Blue*) with Toledo Opera, and Don Basilio in Kjartansson's *Bliss* with Detroit Opera.

As a 2021-2022 studio artist at Madison Opera, Tyrese sang Normanno (*Lucia di Lammermoor*), Mercury (*Orpheus in the Underworld*), and in 2023, he returned as Don Basilio (*Le nozze di Figaro*) as a guest artist. In 2024, Tyrese covered the role of David in Chautauqua Opera's production of Koch/Benavides' *Pepito in Love and Longing by the Lake*. He will return to Chautauqua Opera this summer as an apprentice artist, singing Ivan in Richard Wargo's *The Music Shop* and creating roles in several workshops of new operas.

On the concert stage, Tyrese was the tenor soloist in Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on tour in Argentina with The Washington Chorus and University of Michigan Chamber Choir. Other credits include Handel's *Messiah* (Toledo Symphony), Bonds' *The Ballad of the Brown King* (Akron Symphony), and several J.S. Bach works as a frequent soloist with SC Bach.

A passionate recitalist, Tyrese champions the music of Black composers in recitals across the country and at the Hugo Wolf Akademie in Stuttgart, Germany. Tyrese is also a member of EXIGENCE Vocal Ensemble, and can be found in several commercial recordings with the group. Tyrese holds degrees from Furman University and the University of Michigan, where he is currently pursuing a DMA in Voice Performance.

### **Danielle Casós, *Mezzo-Soprano***

[Danielle Casós](#) is a graduate of the University of Michigan where she earned her Master of Music degree in 2023 and Specialist of Music degree in 2025, studying under Professor Freda Herseth.

This year, Danielle joined Toledo Opera for their 2025-2026 season where she sang the role of Mercédès (*Carmen*) and covered the role of Giannetta (*L'elisir d'amore*). While at the University of Michigan, she performed the roles of Mrs. Grose (*Turn of the Screw*), Elizabeth Cree (*Elizabeth Cree*), Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*), Fox Gold-Stripe (*Cunning Little Vixen*), and Mrs. McClean (*Susannah*).

An avid performer of new works, Ms. Casós was involved in U-M's orchestral workshop premiere of Derek Bermel's *The House on Mango Street* as the leading role of Esperanza (2024) and also originated the role of Older Leah in Lori Laitman's chamber opera, *Uncovered* (2022). In 2024, Danielle joined the Sandford Studio Artist training program at Kentucky Opera, where she performed the role of Kate Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*).

In 2023, she was a Studio Artist in Central City Opera's Bonfils-Stanton Training Program. In 2022, Danielle joined the Lehrer Vocal Institute at Music Academy of the West where she covered the role of Olga (*Eugene Onegin*). This summer, she will be a Vocal Arts Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center. Danielle is also thrilled to be joining the Florentine Opera as a Baumgartner Studio Artist for their 2026-2027 season.

### **Paul Leland Hill, *Bass-Baritone***

A 2022 master's degree graduate in vocal performance from U-M, bass-baritone [Paul Leland Hill](#) returned to campus last fall for the specialist in voice performance program. He portrayed the title role in the U-M Opera production of *Le nozze di Figaro* last November, and last month was Cadmus/Somnus in the production of *Semele*.

Just this past weekend, he appeared in the U-M Chamber Opera's production of Navarro's *Working for the Macbeths* as Witch 3; he also recently appeared as Escamillo in the Chamber Opera production of *La Tragédie de Carmen*, adapted by Peter Brook from Georges Bizet's opera.

Originally from Clinton, Utah, Paul has performed at Sarasota Opera, Opera de Metro, Salt Marsh Opera, and Opera on the James. Other recent role credits include the title role in Don Pasquale during his graduate program at U-M, and Sarastro, Wurm, Pandolphe, the Sodbuster, Raimondo, Colline, and Don Basilio.

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### **The UMS Choral Union**

Formed in 1879 by a group of local university and townspeople who gathered together for the study of Handel's *Messiah*, the UMS Choral Union has performed with many of the world's distinguished orchestras and conductors in its 139-year history. First led by Professor Henry Simmons Frieze and then conducted by Professor Calvin Cady, the group has performed Handel's *Messiah* in Ann Arbor annually since its first *Messiah* performance in December 1879. Based in Ann Arbor under the aegis of UMS and led by Scott Hanoian, the 150-voice Choral Union is known for its definitive performances of large-scale works for chorus and orchestra.

The UMS Choral Union was a participant chorus in a rare performance and Grammy award-winning recording of William Bolcom's *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* under the baton of Leonard Slatkin. Other highlights include a Grammy-nominated recording project

of the rarely heard Oresteian Trilogy by Darius Milhaud conducted by Kenneth Kiesler and collaborations with the San Francisco Symphony, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and New York Philharmonic. The ensemble received The American Prize in Choral Performance (community division) for its 2017 performance of Beethoven's Missa Solemnis.

The UMS Choral Union strives to create an environment that is accessible, diverse, equitable, and inclusive of all. Participation in the Choral Union remains open to all students and adults by audition. For more information on how to audition, please visit [www.ums.org/choralunion](http://www.ums.org/choralunion).