

CU ★ PRESENTS

2020-21 Season  
Digital program



College of Music  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



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**CU ★ PRESENTS** is the home of performing arts at the University of Colorado Boulder.



The mission of the **University of Colorado Boulder College of Music** is  
to inspire artistry and discovery, together.



*As we gather, we honor and acknowledge that the University of Colorado's four campuses are on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, Ute, Apache, Comanche, Kiowa, Lakota, Pueblo and Shoshone Nations. Further, we acknowledge the 48 contemporary tribal nations historically tied to the lands that comprise what is now called Colorado.*

*Acknowledging that we live in the homelands of Indigenous peoples recognizes the original stewards of these lands and their legacies. With this land acknowledgment, we celebrate the many contributions of Native peoples to the fields of medicine, mathematics, government and military service, arts, literature, engineering and more. We also recognize the sophisticated and intricate knowledge systems Indigenous peoples have developed in relationship to their lands.*

*We recognize and affirm the ties these nations have to their traditional homelands and the many Indigenous people who thrive in this place, alive and strong. We also acknowledge the painful history of ill treatment and forced removal that has had a profoundly negative impact on Native nations.*

*We respect the many diverse Indigenous peoples still connected to this land. We honor them and thank the Indigenous ancestors of this place. The University of Colorado pledges to provide educational opportunities for Native students, faculty and staff and advance our mission to understand the history and contemporary lives of Native peoples.*



*Photo courtesy wyntonmarsalis.org*

## Fourth Distinguished Lectureship features **Wynton Marsalis**

*By Jessie Bauters*

Despite distancing and thanks to virtual conferencing, one of the College of Music's most important annual events will go on this winter. The fourth annual Distinguished Lectureship in Music, Diversity and Inclusion will feature a conversation between the College of Music's Diversity and Outreach Coordinator Alma Ramos and Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis.

“Marsalis is such a prominent performer, composer and educator in the jazz and classical realms,” Ramos says. “There is also a lot we can learn from him about his experience as a Black man within the profession of music. It’s important for our BIPOC students, and even faculty and staff, to be able to see themselves within the realm of music in so many avenues.”

The Monday, Feb. 15, conversation is happening in conjunction with **Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents The Democracy! Suite**, a special, virtual Artist Series event available Feb. 19-21.

Jazz at Lincoln Center Assistant Director of Touring Daniel Israel says it’s a mission of the band and a personal passion for Marsalis to make music inclusive and accessible to everyone, regardless of their background: “Our **mission statement is:** ‘We believe jazz is a metaphor for Democracy. Because jazz is improvisational, it celebrates personal freedom and encourages individual expression. Because jazz is swinging, it dedicates that freedom to finding and maintaining common ground with others. Because jazz is rooted in the blues, it inspires us to face adversity with persistent optimism.’”

Marsalis, who made a name for himself quickly as a child prodigy on trumpet, went on to attend Juilliard; perform with Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock, Sarah Vaughan and others; and become a prolific composer, author and activist. In his work with JLCO, Marsalis has tried to make jazz and music education an integrated part of school programs. Israel says one silver lining of the pandemic has been the opportunity to spread JLCO's message to a broader audience.

Marsalis has also done several virtual talks this year, reaching more audiences than ever before. Incoming College of Music Dean John Davis says Marsalis will bring a unique perspective to the college's series.

"Wynton is an engaging speaker and brings a lot of insight to the college's Distinguished Lectureship on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion series," Davis explains. "He has been a long-time advocate for diversity and racial equity, both inside and outside of music."

*The Fourth Annual Distinguished Lectureship on Music, Diversity and Inclusion is Feb. 15 at 11:30 a.m. Mountain Standard Time. For information about how to access the event, and for tickets to the Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents The Democracy! Suite virtual performance, **visit the CU Presents website.***

# Fourth Annual Distinguished Lectureship in Music, Diversity and Inclusion

Featuring Wynton Marsalis

11:30 a.m., Monday, Feb. 15, 2021

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The fourth annual Distinguished Lectureship in Music, Diversity and Inclusion will feature a stirring conversation between Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Managing and Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis and Alma Ramos, diversity and outreach coordinator for the College of Music. Ramos will moderate topical questions submitted in advance by students and guests alongside Marsalis, who will share the life experiences that led to the highly esteemed position he holds today.

*The fourth annual Distinguished Lectureship in Music, Diversity and Inclusion is presented in conjunction with **Jazz at Lincoln Center Presents: The Democracy! Suite** featuring the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra Septet with Wynton Marsalis Feb. 19-21, 2021.*



# Biographies



**Wynton Marsalis** is the managing and artistic director of **Jazz at Lincoln Center** and a world-renowned trumpeter and composer. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana in 1961, Marsalis began his classical training on trumpet at age 12,

entered The Juilliard School at age 17 and then joined Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers. He made his recording debut as a leader in 1982 and has since recorded more than 60 jazz and classical recordings, which have won him nine Grammy Awards. In 1983, he became the first and only artist to win both classical and jazz Grammys in the same year and repeated this feat in 1984.

Marsalis is also an internationally respected teacher and spokesman for music education, and has received honorary doctorates from dozens of U.S. universities and colleges. He has written six books; his most recent are *Squeak, Rumble, Whomp!*

*Whomp! Whomp!*, illustrated by Paul Rogers and published by Candlewick Press in 2012, and *Moving to Higher Ground: How Jazz Can Change Your Life* with Geoffrey C. Ward, published by Random House in 2008. In 1997, Marsalis became the first jazz artist to be awarded the prestigious Pulitzer Prize in music for his oratorio *Blood on the Fields*, which was commissioned by Jazz at Lincoln Center. In 2001, he was appointed Messenger of Peace by Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and he has also been designated cultural ambassador to the United States of America by the U.S. State Department through their CultureConnect program.

Marsalis was instrumental in the Higher Ground Hurricane Relief concert, produced by Jazz at Lincoln Center. The event raised more than \$3 million for the Higher Ground Relief Fund to benefit the musicians, music industry-related enterprises, and other individuals and entities from the areas in Greater New Orleans who were affected by Hurricane Katrina. Marsalis helped lead the effort to construct Jazz at Lincoln Center's home—Frederick P. Rose Hall—the first education, performance and broadcast facility devoted to jazz, which opened in October 2004.





**Alma Ramos** (pronouns she/her/hers) comes to the College of Music from the University of Colorado Denver, where she worked as a graduate assistant in the Center for Identity and Inclusion and with the Peer Advocate Leaders

(PAL) Program while earning a master's in counseling with a concentration in higher education and student affairs. Ramos holds a bachelor's degree in education studies with an emphasis in vocal music education from the University of Missouri – Columbia.

Ramos has combined her two passions: music and social justice. Her work is dedicated to creating more equitable spaces for marginalized communities, offering programming to increase retention of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) within their educational settings, and cultivating continuous learning opportunities on how to best support individuals with an intersectionality lens. She continues to focus on how systems can better support underrepresented communities.



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As of Jan. 10, 2021

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# 2020-21 Digital Programs

January-March 2021

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