



Photo by Nina Schmidt

CAP UCLA and YoungArts present

Kyreeana Breelin Alexander ***We Cool***

Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 8 pm
The Nimoy

**CENTER
FOR THE ART OF
PERFORMANCE
UCLA**

WELCOME TO THE 2025–26 SEASON

UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) is dedicated to the advancement of the contemporary performing arts in all disciplines – dance, music, spoken word and theater, as well as emerging digital, collaborative and cross cultural platforms – by leading artists from around the globe.

Our mission aligns with UCLA's mission of education, research and civic engagement by providing cultural and experiential programs that provoke inquiry and facilitate connection and creativity.

cap.ucla.edu



Throughout history, in moments of uncertainty and transformation, it is the arts that have helped us hold the line — and imagine the horizon. As we move through a shifting political and cultural landscape, we return to the stage not only to reflect, but to lead.

Artists have long been the truth-tellers, the visionaries, the builders of bridges where none existed. In the face of fear or division, they light the way forward — sparking dialogue, resisting silence and creating the emotional commons where we rediscover our shared humanity.

Art doesn't just document history — it shapes it. It asks bold questions. It offers sanctuary. And it dares us to dream.

For our 2025–26 season CAP UCLA invites you into a radical act of gathering across 30 performances with more than 100 artists from around the globe. Imagine a world where strangers become companions in belonging, where performance becomes public square and where artistic voices help us build a more compassionate and courageous society.

This season is more than a series of performances — it is a call to community. Exciting new theater, revolutionary music and dance remind us that unity is not an ideal — it is an act. The stage becomes our platform, our laboratory, our refuge. Here, we witness. We reckon. We rejoice.

Even in tumultuous times — especially in those times — art meets the moment. And so do we.

With hope and imagination,



Edgar Miramontes

Executive and Artistic Director





Photo by Kyreeana Breelin Alexander

CAP UCLA and YoungArts present

Kyreeana Breelin Alexander

We Cool

Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

Program duration: 90 minutes

No intermission



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A special thank you to Arsenio Apillanes for going above and beyond in your continued support and generosity, along with your trusty sidekick, Mark Goebel, with team Ginger Holguin, Marcia Argolo, Ana Galvin, Joy Yarbrough, Will O’Loughlen, and the UCLA WAC/D students, faculty, staff, and lecturers.

Additionally: Gurmukhi Bevli, my committee, David Roussève, Lionel Popkin, Miguel Gutierrez, and Will Rawls. Special thanks to Kenji Igus, Aquilah Ohemeng, Brendalynn Alexander, Shannon Vinci Lewis, and Mili Shah. YoungArts, The Nimoy Theater, and the CAP UCLA staff and team. Thank you so much for all of your support!

ABOUT *WE COOL*

We Cool is an autobiographical coming-of-age story, a childhood diary come to life. Narrated by the “inner committee,” childhood bears O.T. Bear, Murray Huggy-Bear, and Marcus Bearison. An interdisciplinary solo centered around rhythm expressed through tap dance, an amalgamation of dance styles, original composition sound scores, organic hand puppetry, original text and songs. Rhythm is a means of expression ranging from silly simplicity to serious complexity. *We Cool* makes peace with the past while reimagining a future where the imagination leads to unearthing and fulfilling the deepest desires of the heart. It pictures a world where uniqueness is embraced as a part of a collective whole, highlighting the contributions made by each individual.



Photo by Kyreana Breein Alexander

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Kyreeana Breelin Alexander is a multidisciplinary artist working in dance, songwriting, digital art and organic hand puppetry. She holds a BFA from CalArts, an MFA from UCLA and an MA from Berklee College of Music. Kyreeana is the founder of Crayons and Cookies, a company focusing on interdisciplinary performance and arts education. She is also the recent recipient of the Robinson Award through the National YoungArts Foundation.

Kyreeana has served as Guest Artist and Lecturer at UCLA, Dance Guest Artist at Chadwick School (Palos Verdes), Dance Faculty at CSArts-SGV and Guest Artist at Whittier Christian High School. Kyreeana collaborates with her brother (musical lyricist, artist) Vinci Lewis on the project *Paint Brush Game*, fostering a unique blend of visual and performing arts. Her choreographic works and original music compositions have been performed in venues such as REDCAT, The UCLA Nimoy Theater, Glorya Kaufman Theater and The Brea Curtis Theatre.

Kyreeana's collaborative works have been showcased through Dance and Film at The Hollywood Verge Film Awards, the International Independent Film Awards, and the Vision Dance Film Festival in Taiwan. Her work has also been showcased at Netflix (L.A.), the New World Center in Miami and the Los Angeles Theater Center. With a passion for pushing creative boundaries, Kyreeana continues to advocate for the arts through her multifaceted contributions, encouraging a deeper appreciation for the interconnectedness of various artistic disciplines.

O.T. Bear is a famous teddy bear actor from Shopmo' City with a career spanning over two decades. He is known as one of the most popular and recognized actors in *BearTown*. O.T. started his career as a musician with several bands, including "Homegirl & J," "The Jammers" and "MIX." He has also acted in many feature films such as *OBear*, *Dognappers*, *ROBOS* and *Mrs. Grizz*. His television credits include the hit TV show *O.T.'s World* and *Bear Brothers*. He has won several Teddy Bear Music Video Awards for his chart-topping songs, including "Life of a Bear," "O.T. Be My Boo," and "BearTown." He has been called "charming" by the *LA Dance Chronicle* (2025). He is a recent graduate of Bear Berklee College of Music.

Marcus Bearison a Honeyville native who works as a radio host and podcaster. He is well-known for hosting the shows *Hey Mr. DJ* and *The Good Morning Report*, as well as being a member of The Treehouse Band. Currently, he is pursuing a dual degree in Journalism and Psychology at Bear UCLA. His inspiration to attend Bear UCLA came from attending a game and seeing Joe and Josette Bruin being larger than life (no relation).

Murray Huggy-Bear is originally from Bear York City, Bear York. He likes to eat, take long naps and dream. He is an actor who graduated from Bear Cal-Arts and made his on-screen debut at REDCAT in 2018 with O.T. Bear and Marcus Bearison. The piece, directed by Kyreeana Breelin Alexander, was titled *Paid Programming*. Murray is very grateful to perform in tonight's show and thanks everyone for coming out to support! It means a lot to him!

ABOUT YOUNGARTS

Established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison, YoungArts – the national foundation for the advancement of artists – identifies exceptional young artists, amplifies their potential, and invests in their lifelong creative freedom. YoungArts provides space, funding, mentorship, professional development and community throughout artists' careers. Entrance into this prestigious organization starts with a highly competitive application for talented artists ages 15–18, or grades 10–12, in the United States that is judged by esteemed discipline-specific panels of artists through a rigorous adjudication process. Learn more at youngarts.org.

YoungArts

The National Foundation
for the Advancement of Artists

DESIGN FOR SHARING (DFS)

Each year, Design for Sharing (DFS) brings thousands of K-12 public school students from across Los Angeles to CAP UCLA venues for free performances and interactive workshops with professional artists.

DFS programs are open to any public school in greater Los Angeles, and are always free to attend.

cap.ucla.edu/dfs



**CAP
UCLA**





**Attacca Quartet and
Theo Bleckmann**
David Lang's *note to a friend*

Sat, Feb 28, 2026 at 8 pm

The Nimoy

In this 60-minute chamber opera, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer David Lang reimagines three texts by iconic Japanese writer Ryunosuke Akutagawa. The result is a stunning and haunting monodrama, *note to a friend*, addressing our eternal human fascinations with death, love and family.

cap.ucla.edu/note-friend



UCLA NIMOY THEATER

CAP UCLA has a new home for live performance
in Westwood!

Located near the UCLA campus on Westwood Boulevard,
The Nimoy is a reimagining of the historic Crest Theatre as a
flexible, state-of-the-art performance space.

This dynamic and intimately scaled venue immerses
audiences in a profoundly engaging experience of live
performance – while providing contemporary performing
artists from Los Angeles and around the world expanded
opportunities to develop and present new work.

cap.ucla.edu/nimoy





Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company
Still/Here

Thu, Mar 5, 2026 at 8 pm

Royce Hall

Thirty years after its premiere, the groundbreaking dance theater work *Still/Here* by Bill T. Jones returns to the stage. Created during the AIDS epidemic, the piece broke boundaries of American dance theater. Though the world has rapidly changed since its premiere, *Still/Here's* exploration of mortality remains relevant.

“An American Classic” – *The New York Times*

cap.ucla.edu/still-here

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We at UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance acknowledge the Gabrielino/Tongva peoples as the traditional land caretakers of Tovaangar (the Los Angeles basin and South Channel Islands).

As a land grant institution, we pay our respects to the Ancestors (Honuukvetam), Elders (Ahihirom), and relatives/relations (Eyoohinkem) past, present and emerging.

There is no room for racism, intolerance, or inequity.

Anywhere

Not on our stages, in our offices, on our loading docks, in the box office lines, or on the dance floor.

With anyone

Not with our staff, crew, artists, volunteers, ushers, audiences or fans.

We uphold and embrace principles of antiracism, equity, diversity and **AUTHENTIC** inclusion as integral to our mission.

We must **EMPOWER** the historically underrepresented.

We must **UPLIFT** excluded voices.

We must **RESIST** structural racism.

We will **COMMIT** fiercely to our responsibility to observe, absorb, consider, contemplate, endure, share and engage in this change.

We **STAND AGAINST** all forms of discrimination.

We will **STRIVE** to make our organization more equitable and inclusive.

As part of UCLA's School of Art & Architecture (SOAA), we – UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP UCLA) and Theater Management Services (TMS) – are committed to connecting and creating space for the arts and for all communities.

We acknowledge our organizations' histories as being predominantly white institutions.

We are facing uncomfortable truths about systemic racism as we work to make the deep changes necessary to transform the organizational dynamics in our work culture and business practices and dismantle existing oppressive structures. We know there will be shortcomings, which we will face head on. We commit to continually addressing and adapting to changes as they arise. It is only in an improved, supportive work environment that everyone can be fully present, and respected as their true authentic selves.

This statement was drafted by a committee of staff members from both the Center for the Art of Performance and Theater Management Services, from a variety of backgrounds, viewpoints and perspectives.

Together we stand with UCLA's School of Art and Architecture's EDI statement.



CAP UCLA COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

CAP UCLA Executive Producer Council

The Executive Producer Council is CAP UCLA's philanthropic leadership group, which develops and contributes resources vital to CAP UCLA's programming and mission. The Council champions the creative development and presentation of live programs and public dialogue with contemporary performing artists by providing direct support for CAP UCLA's annual programming. The Council is engaged in dialogue about the artistic and curatorial practices that inform annual programs, long-term initiatives and collaborative planning efforts which stand at the heart of CAP UCLA's mission and public purpose.

Design for Sharing (DFS) Council

The Design for Sharing Council is a group of dedicated supporters whose efforts help to resource the K-12 arts education programs of DFS.

cap.ucla.edu/councils

A black circular logo containing the text "CAP UCLA" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

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Associate Technical Director/Lighting & Stage: Katelan Braymer
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Royce Hall

Director of Operations: Heidi Snyder
Venue Manager: Evan "Otter" Wilkinson
Rentals Manager: Anthony Jones
Rentals Associate: Christina Montano

Royce Hall Production

Production Manager: Jeff Wallace
Stage Manager: Lauren "Ren" Westbury
Event Manager: Thomas Colen
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Royce Hall Custodial

Custodian Supervisor: Ranoya Exum
Custodian Lead: Delshena Murphy
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General Questions

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Royce Hall Rental Information

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THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

CAP UCLA gratefully acknowledges our donors, sponsors and members.

This list reflects donations and commitments to the UCLA Nimoy Theater campaign as well as annual gifts made from Jan 1, 2024 to Aug 31, 2025.

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ENDOWMENTS

Over time, many generous individuals have initiated leadership gifts to establish endowments that support the performing arts at UCLA in perpetuity. We gratefully acknowledge:

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NAME YOUR SEAT

The opening of The Nimoy offers donors a rare opportunity to create a lasting legacy while celebrating their passion for contemporary performing arts at UCLA. Learn more about naming a seat in The Nimoy – CAP UCLA’s newest home for live performance – and other opportunities to become a part of this state-of-the-art theater.

cap.ucla.edu/give-nimoy



BECOME A CAP UCLA MEMBER

Membership is an invitation — to be closer to the creative process, to champion new ideas and to help the arts thrive.

Members receive priority access, ticket benefits and invitations to special gatherings that deepen the experience of our shared journey.

Join today at cap.ucla.edu/membership

