

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
MUSIC DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS

SENIOR RECITAL

CHRIS KIM, CELLO

WITH

ZHANHONG KUANG, PIANO

NAOMI KIM, VIOLIN

SARAH KUANG, PIANO

MAX VANCE, CELLO

ELIZABETH VANCE, CELLO

MARINA LAWSON, CELLO

NICKERSON STUDIOS
FRIDAY MAY 15, 2026 | 7:30 P.M.

PROGRAM

Après un rêve G. Fauré (1845-1924)

Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major, Hob. VIIb/1 J. Haydn (1732-1809)

I. Moderato

II. Adagio

III. Allegro molto

Intermission

Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas A. Piazzolla (1921-1992)

III. Primavera Porteña

Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 13 L. van Beethoven (1770-1827)

II. Adagio cantabile

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End H. Zimmer (1957)

Arr. M. Vance (2003)

Bittersweet for 4 Cellos Apocalyptica

Arr. M. Vance (2003)

— Please join us for a reception in the lobby following the recital —

BIOGRAPHIES

Chris Kim is a senior at Seattle Pacific University pursuing a BA in Music with an emphasis in Cello Performance. He has studied the cello for over a decade, beginning in South Korea under the guidance of Hoosung Lee, and later with Bradley Hawkins, Haeyoon Shin, Kevin Krentz, and Mara Finkelchtein. Since moving to Washington in 2017, Chris has performed in venues such as Benaroya Hall and the Federal Way Performing Arts Center, and has been an active member of various ensembles including the YMCA Youth Orchestra, the Community Church of Seattle Orchestra, and the SPU String Ensemble. In addition to his work as a performer, he is also passionate about teaching, maintaining a private studio of middle and high school students and guest teaching at institutions such as Northshore Christian Academy. Outside of music, he enjoys writing, watching soccer, and volunteering at his church. Although currently completing his music degree, he plans to pursue a further academic journey to become a certified nurse practitioner. Chris extends his heartfelt gratitude to his family, friends, and teachers for their constant support and inspiration throughout his journey. He would also like to thank the SPU house crew, as well as each of tonight's collaborator for making this performance possible.

Chris performs tonight in partial fulfillment of a B.A. in Music with an emphasis in Performance

Zhanhong Kuang is an active collaborative pianist in the Seattle area. With a BA degree in Piano Performance from Seattle Pacific University, Zhanhong has accompanied numerous choir concerts, musicals, recitals, master classes, music festivals, and competitions. In addition, she has been working as an accompanist for the Seattle School District since 2017, and Shoreline School District since 2024. Zhanhong is also the collaborative pianist of Magnolia Chorale, Norwegian Ladies Chorus of Seattle, Seattle Jewish Chorale, and Seattle Children's Chorus.

Naomi Kim is an alumna of Seattle Pacific University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiology with a minor in Music. She has been dedicated to the violin for over fourteen years and has served as concertmaster in several ensembles, including the Seattle Pacific University Orchestra. Currently, she is taking a gap year to prepare for her graduate studies while working as a registered dental assistant. Besides working, she continues to play the violin, performing at local gigs and teaching the instrument to younger students.

Sarah Kuang is a second year here at SPU and is majoring in Accounting. She has been playing piano for over 10 years and enjoys music. Outside of school and piano, she enjoys baking and arts and crafts.

More collaborator bios in the back!

BIOGRAPHIES

Max Vance is an award-winning classically trained cellist and composer in the Seattle area. He has premiered his music and/or played at venues such as The Triple Door, MoPop, Benaroya Hall, The Crocodile Café, Folklife Festival, King5 TV, and the Rendezvous, as well as abroad in Paris, France and Navafria, Spain. He studies both cello and composition at Seattle Pacific University and plans to be a film composer post-graduation.

Elizabeth Vance, born in Wenatchee WA, is a Senior majoring in Music Therapy at SPU. Her list of clinical site collaborations include Aegis Senior Living, the Alyssa Burnett Centre, the Lullaby Project, and more. She began playing the cello at age 9 and has since participated in multiple school orchestras studying under Shawn Diaz and Mara Finkelstein. Over the years she has also played electric bass, ukulele, guitar, and piano among others. Elizabeth enjoys playing cello alongside Max Vance in their duet “Cellobration” and on her church worship team.

Marina Lawson is a post-baccalaureate student at SPU. She has always gravitated towards music, starting on the piano at age seven and later transitioning to the highland bagpipe. Competing in both solo and band categories, Marina has won awards in Oregon, Washington, California, and British Columbia. In 2001 Marina earned the opportunity to compete at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow, Scotland. Marina has found her musical home in the cello, which she has been playing for six years.

Scan to Donate to SPU Music



— *Special thanks to the Nickerson House and Tech Team* —