

KU SCHOOL OF MUSIC

The University of Kansas

KU Jazz Ensemble I
Dan Gailey, *director*
Alex Frank, *guitar/composer*
Eddie Moore, *synthesizer/composer*

2025 Student Composers Concert

Program to be selected from the following:

Cerulean//Amber
Freak Out
Inevitable Truths
New Malls
Reflections I
I. Shock
Timur
Under the Surface

Keegan Kaiser
Daul Lee
Eddie Moore/arr. Daul Lee
Ben Perschall
Blue Noyes
Jake Haughey
Nic Weaver
Alex Frank

KU Jazz Ensemble I

Saxophones

Keegan Kaiser *Olathe, KS*
Dylan Reed *Shawnee, KS*
Spencer Addis *Kansas City, MO*
Jake Haughey *Olathe, KS*
Andrea Edwards *Overland Park, KS*

Trumpets

Wayner Ramón Ortega *Caguas, PR*
Armando Gutiérrez *Rogers, AR*
Nic Weaver *Lenexa, KS*
Zach Church *Lees Summit, MO*
Oliver Robinson *Tulsa, OK*

Trombones

Aidan Hamer *Lenexa, KS*
Asa Martin *Merriam, KS*
Kate Lockhart *Overland Park, KS*
José Arrieta *Salina, KS*

Rhythm Section

Daul Lee, piano *Wichita, KS*
Paxton Harvey, bass *Lawrence, KS*
Huck Langford, drums/percussion *Austin, TX*
Blue Noyes, drums/percussion *Linwood, KS*

Studio Orchestra

Skye Bishop, violin
Sofia Lefort, violin
Min Ishii, violin
Emma Welsh, viola
Oscar Ohly, cello
Abby Short, flute
Kathryn Pittman, flute
Chelsea Kanicsar, oboe
Luke Frith, bassoon
Connor Anderson, horn
Josh Wheeler, horn

Friday, November 21, 2025
7:30 p.m., The Lied Center of Kansas

Currently residing in Columbia, MO, **ALEX FRANK** is a guitarist, composer, and educator who holds an M.M. in composition from the University of Kansas. As a working musician, Alex has performed and toured internationally with his own quartet and with an international big band under the direction of Pierre Bertrand. He has also arranged for artists such as Mike Moreno, Bobby Watson, and Renee Rosnes. Alex currently teaches jazz guitar, ensembles, and harmony/arranging at the University of Missouri. His debut album, *Reclaim*, was released in 2023, and he can most recently be heard as a sideman on Matt Otto's album *Umbra*.

A lifelong musician traversing a number of bands and styles, **EDDIE MOORE** is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Kansas City where he received a M.A in Jazz Studies. He reaches from all aspects of Black American music with a soulful elegance to match his thoughtful and intentional playing. His sound is textural with a velvety warmth that blurs the lines between Jazz fusion, Hip-hop, and Neo-Soul. Moore has released nine albums that live in a variety of settings, as a solo artist and with groups Eddie Moore & the Outer Circle, and We the People. His music has been featured on several platforms that include *DownBeat*, *JAZZIZ*, The KC Star, The Pitch KC, and KC Studio Magazine to name a few. His music was also featured in award winning short films, "Room Tone" and "Bel- Air", by Morgan Cooper. Amongst all this he is the in-demand keyboardist in the Midwest both for his work with analog synths, contemporary keyboards, and acoustic piano. He has shared the stage with Tia Fuller, Tivon Pennicott, Boyz to Men, Erykah Badu, Chante Cann, and many more.

JAKE HAUGHEY is a first year master's student in jazz composition at KU. He graduated earlier this year from MidAmerica Nazarene University with a Bachelor's degree in Music Education.

KEEGAN KAISER is a saxophonist, composer, educator, producer, and artist from Olathe, Kansas, currently pursuing a MM in Composition—Jazz Emphasis at the University of Kansas, where he is also a graduate teaching assistant in jazz and commercial music. He recently received a *DownBeat* Student Music Award in the category of Best Engineered Live Recording Undergraduate Division, as well as an Honorable Mention in the 2026 Jazz Education Network's Young Composers Showcase for his composition "Without Reception".

DAUL LEE is a composer and pianist from Wichita, Kansas who has had the honor of premiering an arrangement of "Butch and Butch" by Oliver Nelson for Camila Meza and two big band charts for the award-winning Jazz Ensemble I at the University of Kansas. He is a senior at KU pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics, and currently studies composition and piano under the tutelage of Professor Dan Gailey and Professor Eddie Moore, respectively.

BLUE NOYES is a drummer and composer based in Lawrence, KS in her third year at KU studying jazz performance. Blue was recently named through a national audition process as one of the 2026 Sisters in Jazz, a prestigious performance and mentorship initiative sponsored by the Jazz Education Network. Outside of her studies, Blue remains an active member of the Kansas City jazz scene and can be seen all over town on any given night.

BEN PERSCHALL is a first year master's student in jazz composition at the University of Kansas, where he is also a graduate teaching assistant in jazz and commercial music. He primarily writes eclectic electronic music, but loves to write just about anything.

Originally from Lenexa, KS, **NIC WEAVER** is a junior trumpet performance, composition, and jazz studies major at the University of Kansas. A self-proclaimed coffee aficionado, Nic utilized the beverage to great extent in writing his work, "*Timur*," for big band.