

UCLA Alumni Band

2017-2018

The Year in Review



established 1976
uclalumniband.org

From the UCLA Alumni Band President

July 2018

Dear Fellow Bruins, Family, and Friends:

The college football season begins about Labor Day and ends around Thanksgiving, but the UCLA Alumni Band season spans the whole academic year. We play for many other sports such as Gymnastics, Water Polo, Softball, Baseball, Rowing, and Volleyball from January to June.

As you look through this newsletter you'll see the array of events we've performed at last season. The Alumni Band is in high demand. We sincerely wish we could play for every event we're invited to. In fact, it would be just about back-to-back gigs for those who could play them all.

The band is thriving, with new members from every era arriving each season. Have you been thinking about investigating the Alumni Band? Well, we hereby extend an open invitation for those of you who attended UCLA and play a band instrument to come be part of us. Please check out our website, uclalumniband.org. And when you do, please bear in mind that if you choose to become a member you can participate (or not) whenever you want, no pressure.

Then mark your calendar for Saturday, August 18th and show up to the Annual Rehearsal and Barbecue at the home of Ed and Judy Hirsch in Chatsworth.

Next, join us for our home football opener vs. Cincinnati on Saturday, September 1st at 12:30 pm under our canopy at the Rose Bowl, where we'll thrill the crowd with fight songs and pop tunes, then stroll through the tailgate parties playing "Porta-Sons" with grateful alums beaming, singing along and high-fiving us. About an hour before kick-off the Alumni Band concertizes one more time at the Court of Champions, where the acoustics at the south wall of the Rose Bowl enhance our already brilliant sound and the crowd goes wild!

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, keep in touch, and Go Bruins!

Dave Pardess, '71, '74, '90
Piccolo player and President



By the Numbers

2017-2018

We are...

107 band members

who participated in at least
one performance during 2017-2018

Sons of Westwood

WELCOME

6 new members

in 2017-2018

Nancy and John Frausto,
Steve Langinger, Andrew Sprenkel,
Mel Bater, Mack Dimler



Most recent
graduating class
represented in
the band:

2017

(Andrew Sprenkel)



Earliest
graduating class
represented in
the band:

1949

(Sam Engel)

21 performances

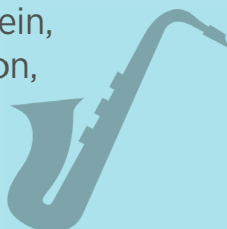
during 2017-2018



10 Founding Members

who are still active with the band:

Alex DeVorkin, Dave Dial,
Stu Guttenplan, Bob Kerstein,
Dave Pardess, Pat Patterson,
Carmen Rexach,
Jim Spitser, Joan Wiener,
and Ron Wiener.



**45
average
number**

of band members
performing at
gymnastics meets
in 2018



**117 paid
members**

during 2017-2018

UCLA Alumni Band

2017–2018 Performances

Date	Performance	Result
July 15, 2017	“Bruin Viewin’” Season Ticket Holder event	
August 26	Annual Rehearsal & BBQ	
September 3	UCLA Football vs. Texas A&M	W, 45-44
September 9	UCLA Football vs. Hawaii	W, 56-23
September 30	UCLA Football vs. Colorado	W, 27-23
October 21	UCLA Football vs. Oregon	W, 31-14
November 11	UCLA Football vs. Arizona State	W, 44-37
November 18	UCLA Women’s Basketball vs. Baylor	W, 82-68
November 24	UCLA Football vs. California	W, 30-27
January 6, 2018	UCLA Gymnastics vs. Ohio State	W, 196.250-193.200
February 4	UCLA Gymnastics vs. Oklahoma	L, 197.950-198.050
February 25	UCLA Gymnastics vs. Oregon State	W, 198.075-196.525
March 3	UCLA Rowing vs. SDSU, Stanford	
March 11	UCLA Baseball vs. USC	L, 2-3
March 13	UCLA Gymnastics vs. San Jose State	W, 198.275-194.850
March 24	UCLA Softball vs. Oregon State	W, 3-2
April 7	UCLA Men’s Volleyball vs. Brigham Young	W, 3-0
April 8	Celebration of Life for Elliott Stern	
April 21	UCLA Football Spring Game	
May 12	Celebration of Life for Murray Neidorf	
May 19	UCLA Baseball vs. Oregon	W, 15-1

“Bruin Viewin” Season Ticket Holder Event

July 15, 2017



To start off the season, we entertained season ticket holders at UCLA Athletics’ special event at the Rose Bowl, “Bruin Viewin”.

Annual Rehearsal & BBQ

August 26, 2017



Over 60 band members and their families joined us for a day of rehearsal and fun at “Hirsch Castle.” During the 3-hour rehearsal, where we learned some new tunes and brushed up on others, our families played in the pool or hung out in the kitchen. We then all enjoyed a gourmet BBQ and social hour.

UCLA Football

September 3 – November 24



UCLA Football

September 3 – November 24



Starting about 3 1/2 hours before kickoff of every game, we entertain the tailgaters in Lot H, we play for the Bruin Walk as the football team walk through the Fan Zone, we perform with the UCLA Spirit Squad, we play throughout the Fan Zone, we entertain the tailgaters who set up near our tent, and then head over to the Court of Champions inside the Rose Bowl, where we perform until about 15 minutes before kickoff.

UCLA Football

September 3 –November 24



UCLA Golden Girl Jade McVay performed with us prior to the Texas A&M game



We enjoy performing with the UCLA Spirit Squad before each game.

*We are Sons of Westwood,
and we hail the blue and gold,
true to thee our hearts will be,
our love will not grow old.*

FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT!

*Bruins roam the hills of
Westwood,
by the blue Pacific shore
and if by chance we see
a man from U\$C,
every Bruin starts to roar.*

*U (clap, clap, clap)
C (clap, clap, clap)
L (clap, clap, clap)
A (clap, clap, clap)
U-C-L-A Fight, Fight, Fight!*

UCLA Football

September 3 – November 24



We enjoyed having some of the High School Band Day participants sit in with us before the Oregon game on October 21.”



UCLA Football

September 3 – November 24



UCLA Women's Basketball

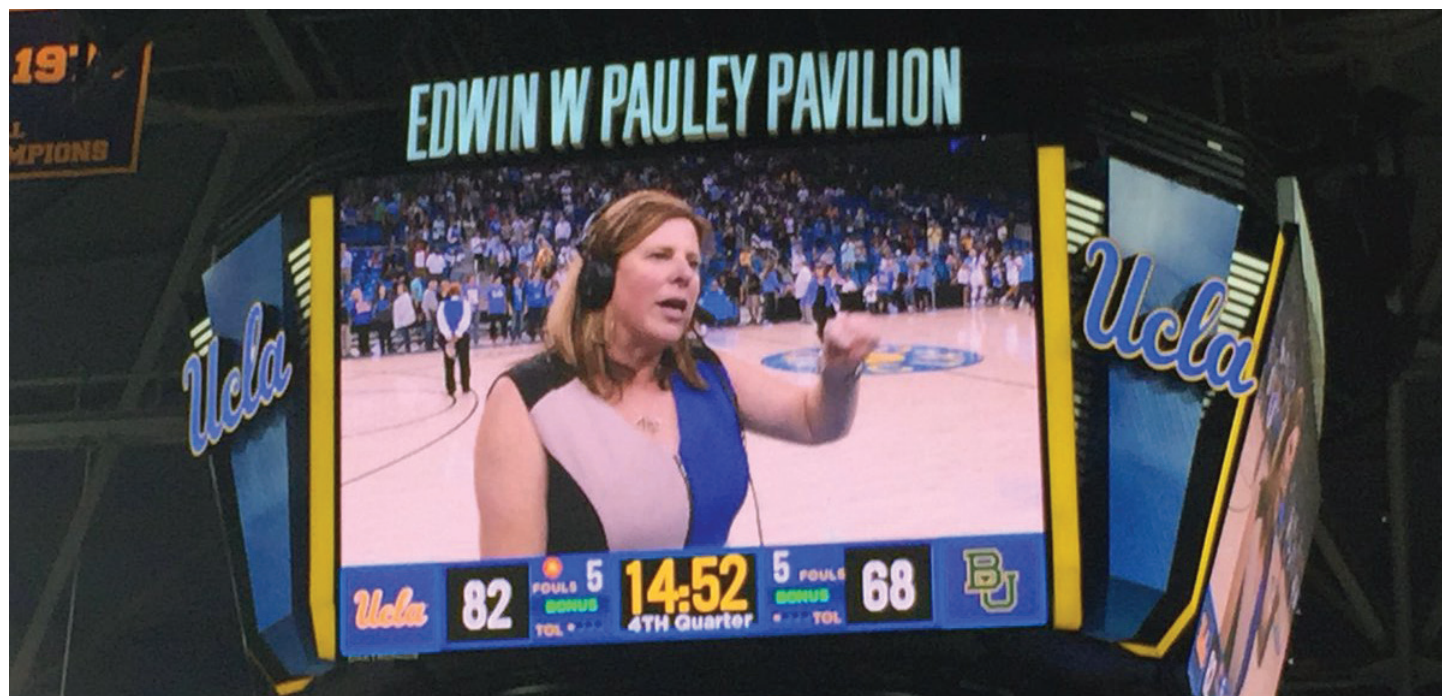
November 18, 2017



We performed at one of the most exciting women's basketball games in Pauley this year, as our #7-ranked Bruins upset the #3-ranked Baylor University Lady Bears. Actually, we dominated them, winning 82-68.

UCLA Women's Basketball

November 18, 2017



UCLA Gymnastics

January 6–March 13, 2018



We continued our role as the 'Official Band of UCLA Gymnastics', playing at four home meets in Pauley Pavilion this year. We enjoyed seeing many great performances, and of course, were very excited that our team won the 2018 National Championship.

UCLA Gymnastics

January 6–March 13, 2018



Honda Award winner Christine Peng-Peng Lee came over to speak with the band during the Oregon State meet on February 25.



Music Director Joel Fierberg with legendary UCLA Gymnastics Head Coach Valorie Kondos Field during the Oklahoma meet on February 4.

UCLA Women's Rowing

March 3, 2018



UCLA Rowing Head Coach Amy Fuller Kearney invited us to play at the regatta vs. Stanford and San Diego State, which took place at the UCLA Boathouse in Marina del Rey. We had a blast playing as the boats rowed by. In fact, we were having so much fun that two of the Aztec rowers decided to join the band! You can see them grinning at the top back of our group photo below. After the event, the band enjoyed brunch at a restaurant near the Marina.



UCLA Baseball

2017-2018



The Alumni Band performed at two UCLA Baseball games this year. First, we continued our run performing at the Dodgertown Classic baseball game vs. USC at Dodger Stadium on March 11, where we always sound better than the band that other school sends. Then, on May 19, we performed at the game vs. Oregon at Jackie Robinson Stadium just west of campus.

UCLA Baseball

2017-2018



UCLA Softball

March 24, 2018



We performed at the UCLA-Oregon State softball game, which the Bruins won in dramatic fashion on a walk-off home run in the bottom of the 7th inning by Honda Award winner Rachel Garcia.

UCLA Men's Volleyball

April 7, 2018



The Alumni Band performed at our Men's Volleyball match against BYU, where we helped inspire the #3-ranked Bruins to a huge upset 3-0 victory over the #2-ranked Cougars.

UCLA Football Spring Game

April 21, 2018



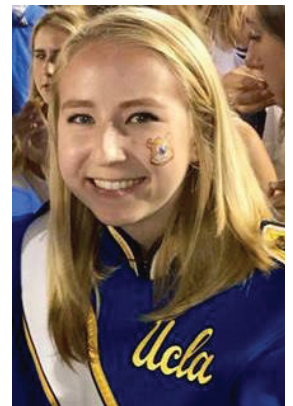
The band was invited to play at the UCLA Football Spring Game at Drake Stadium, where we got a first glimpse of Coach Chip Kelly's 2018 squad. We had a great time and can't wait to see the team play this fall!



Christina Martin

Receives True Bruin Distinguished Senior Award

The True Bruin Distinguished Senior Award is the Alumni Association scholarship endowed by the UCLA Alumni Band, and this year's recipient is Christina Martin. In addition to playing mellophone in the UCLA Bruin Marching Band all four years of her undergraduate career, Christina served as Brass Rank Leader, which entailed observing and ranking members' marching and playing skills, correcting mistakes, and helping rehearsals run smoothly. Also, during her Junior and Senior years she was Mellophone Section Leader and responsible for running sectionals, teaching parts and building camaraderie. Christina was also very active in KΚΨ. This year she was president of UCLA's Psi Chapter and chair of the committee to develop a grant that will provide money for band directors from underrepresented backgrounds to attend the Midwest Music Clinic, thereby encouraging excellence in music and aiding them in better serving their bands. Christina is also a writer and often contributed to "The Note", a fun weekly publication handed out to the band for home football games, which includes inside jokes, games and other creative writing meant to hype up the band on game days. Assistant Director of the UCLA Bruin Marching Band Kenneth Fisher speaks highly of her, lauding her trustworthiness, professionalism, attitude and maturity. During her four years at UCLA, Christina was also involved in Spring Sing and in a myriad of community service projects. In her spare time (!) Christina attended classes, took many exams, and wrote papers and just this June received her BA in Communication Studies. At a pizza dinner on campus with Joel and Dave, she expressed interest in the Alumni Band and is now on our mailing list. Needless to say, the Alumni Band Board of Directors was delighted to unanimously award this year's True Bruin Distinguished Senior Award to Christina Martin!



Words of Appreciation

2017-2018

from Scott Mitchell

Associate Athletic Director | Marketing & Business Development

Thank you for your assistance all year long. We count on you and feel very fortunate to be able to do so.

Please extend our warm wishes to every Alumni Band member. We had an excellent year of which I am extremely proud. Excellent job. Go Bruins!



from Christina Martin

Recipient of True Bruin Distinguished Senior Award

I just wanted to thank you again for treating me to an awesome pizza dinner at Wolfgang Puck a few weeks ago! It was so fun getting to know you two [Dave & Joel], and I loved hearing all your stories and memories about your time in the UCLA band. I have even shared some of your stories with friends, and I think it's really special that so many of us share this common thread.

I also wanted to thank you again for awarding me this year's Alumni Band scholarship. I was shocked and overjoyed when I heard the news a few months ago, and I actually still am! Before this, I had never received a scholarship in my time at UCLA. It was especially meaningful to receive one from an organization that is so closely tied to my experience at UCLA. If you could extend my deepest gratitude to the Alumni Band and those involved in the selection process, I would very much appreciate it. Thank you again for taking the time to meet me.



from Christine Peng-Peng Lee

2018 National Champion - Balance Beam (Individual), Team

2018 Honda Award for Women's Gymnastics

2018 Co-Pac-12 Woman of the Year

2018 Pac-12 Gymnastics Scholar-Athlete of the Year

As my collegiate gymnastics career came to an end, there have been so many amazing memories that have made my time here at UCLA so much more enjoyable. I can not thank you enough, UCLA Alumni Band, for your team spirit at our gymnastics meets. You all have truly brought our team together over the years and ignited us to compete at our best, helping take that NCAA National Championship title this year!!! Keep rocking those instruments and bringing smiles to everyone who listens to your music. What a great year 2018 has brought us and many more to come! Go Bruins!



Credits

It takes a team of devoted Bruin alums to make a volunteer group like the UCLA Alumni Band happen. I can't thank my fellow officers enough for all they do. They are Vice President Charlie Yacoobian, Secretary Joan Wiener, Treasurer Rochelle Kellner, Librarian Lee Panman, Coordinator of Membership Rebecca Panman, Coordinator of Communications and Properties Bill Adler, Coordinator of Festivities Carmen Rexach, Webmaster Sheila Lefor, and our tireless Music Director, Joel Fierberg, whose knowledge, talent and dedication know no bounds. Joel continues to be a driving force for the Alumni Band, conducts the group at most performances, and also gets to play the tuba on rare occasions.

The season just ending has been replete with various activities as you have seen as you viewed the photos taken by our

photographer, piccolo player Shirley McCombs-Swayne and other members who contribute to our photo file with pics taken with their cameras and phones. Most photos feature a sea of Bruin Blue due to the ubiquity of our new Under Armour polo shirts. You will also enjoy the fabulous new layout/format designed by alto sax player Sheila Lefor.

It is always a pleasure working with the UCLA Alumni Association and the UCLA Athletic Department. There are so many names I would like to mention, so many thoughtful, professional people to thank. Suffice it to say, the UCLA Alumni Band is honored and delighted to be able to contribute to the century-long tradition of Bruin Spirit.

Dave Pardess, '71, '74, '90
Piccolo player and President

*We are the Mighty Bruins,
the best team in the West,
we're marching on to Vic-tor-y
to conquer all the rest.
We are the Mighty Bruins,
triumphant evermore,
and you can hear,
from far and near,
the Mighty Bruin roar.*

*U (clap, clap, clap)
C (clap, clap, clap)
L (clap, clap, clap)
A (clap, clap, clap)
U-C-L-A Fight, Fight, Fight!*