



**Genevieve Simmons** *Violin, Piano, Son, West African Music and Dance*  
Genevieve graduated from Yale University with degrees in cognitive science and music, and went on to teach English in Hong Kong and travel. She now has her Master's degree in Environment, Politics, and Development from University of London.



**Andre Taylor** *Theater*  
Andre graduated from UC Santa Barbara in Spring 2016 with a BA in Theater and is currently pursuing acting and other creative endeavors in Los Angeles.



**Aubyn Banwell** *Son, Steel Pans*  
Aubyn is a second-generation alumnus of East Bay Center – her father Matt Eakle was also a Center student. Aubyn studied Studio Art at University of Puget Sound and now practices regenerative, sustainable agriculture.



**G'bari Gilliam** *Hip Hop, West African Dance*  
G'bari received Honorable Mention in World Dance Forms from the National Young Arts Foundation, and went on to major in Dance and Sociology at UCLA. G'bari currently is a core member of Versa-Style Dance Company.



**Maame Korley** *Cello, Steel Pans*  
Maame aims to major in public health. She is “passionate about food justice and healthy food distribution” and women’s health “because of the abundant need for advocates in many places like Ghana and India.”



**Camila Quintana del Carpio** *Piano, Flute*  
Camila studied at UC Berkeley, where she earned a dual degree in Environmental Science and Forestry, and recently became a registered forester. While at UC Berkeley, she supervised the Center’s college prep and tutoring program.



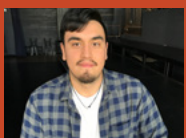
**Dolores “Lolis” Garcia** *Traditional Mexican Music & Dance*  
Lolis has been with the Center since a young age, first, as a student and now as faculty/staff member, teaching Traditional Mexican music and dance, as well as co-directing Son de la Tierra, one of the Center’s resident companies. She received her BA in Psychology from the University of San Francisco.



**John Dandan** *Piano*  
After graduating from Berklee College of Music, John founded the Dandan Performing Arts Center, which provides access to high-quality music and arts education to underserved communities in San Lorenzo and the East Bay.



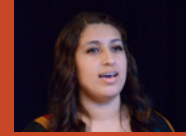
**Howard Wiley** *Jazz Saxophone, Drums*  
Howard has received the Thelonious Monk Scholarship, Downbeat Instrumentalist Award for Best Soloist and MVP Award for the Grammy All-American Jazz Band. He became Director of the Center’s Richmond Jazz Collective in 2013.



**Jorge Luis Garcia** *Film*  
Jorge studied cinema at San Francisco State University. His most recent accomplishment was the screening of a film he wrote/directed/co-produced, *Guardia de mi Hermano* (My Brother’s Keeper), at Cannes Film Festival in May 2018.



**Blessing Ojeh** *Modern Dance, West African Dance, Hip Hop*  
Blessing went on to study at Columbia University, majoring in psychology and evolutionary biology, with plans for a career in medicine or healthcare management.



**Janelly Briseño** *Voice*  
As a first generation Mexican American and first generation in her family to go to college, Janelly attended UC Davis and graduated in 2019.



**Camille Bauman-Jaeger** *Classical Voice*  
Camille graduated from Barnard College with a BA in Architecture and from Carnegie Mellon University with an MS in Computational Design. She is now pursuing a career as a freelance designer, architect and writer.



**Marshall Hooper** *Trumpet*  
Marshall graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, with a Major in Business Finance and credits the mentorship he received at the Center for his success.



**Darius Drooh** *West African Dance, Modern Dance, Ballet*  
After high school, Darius traveled to New York on a fellowship from the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. He continues to live/work in NYC, working with choreographers such as Anthony Burrell and Carlos dos Santos Jr.



**Olivya Conner** *Piano, Voice, Theater*  
In 2018 Olivya co-founded a theater company, Fragmented Light Theater. She recently graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in New York on a nearly full scholarship, where she studied Cognitive and Behavioral Science, Marine Science, and Music.



**Kalin Freeman** *Jazz Saxophone*  
Kalin was raised a few blocks from Richmond’s Iron Triangle neighborhood and did not learn an instrument until he was a freshman in high school and joined the Diploma Program. Kalin performs, composes and produces under the name KJ Focus.



**Victor McElhane** *Jazz Percussion*  
As a role model for the younger generation and a talented Jazz drummer, Victor demonstrated presence of mind, leadership and resilience. Victor attended USC Thornton School of Music, studying jazz drumming/percussion.

1997 - 2019



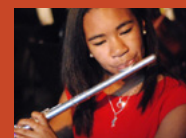
**Jordan Simmons** *Capoeira, Shakuachi Flute, Theater*  
A Richmond native, Jordan became a Center student in 1968 and joined the faculty in 1978. He was the Center’s Artistic/Executive Director from 1985 until he retired in December 2021. Jordan is a Capoeira Mestre, shakuachi teacher, and theater director.



**Rodrigo Perez** *Trumpet, Son*  
Rodrigo’s parents are immigrants from Sinaloa, Mexico and Rodrigo’s devotion to the Mexican Son art form is a testament to his commitment to his cultural roots. He studied Aerospace Engineering at Cal Poly.



**Deontae Watkins** *Hip Hop*  
As a Diploma student, Deontae attended 15 hours of classes/rehearsals a week. He is now starting his own dance crew and is back at the Center as a dance faculty member.



**Pinkie Young** *Flute*  
Pinkie went on to study geology and environmental science at Occidental College where she graduated in 2017. Pinkie now works as a Staff Geologist at Environmental Applications, Inc. in Pasadena.