

The UA Philharmonic

Thomas Cockrell, music director
J Alexander Bennett, conductor

Violin

Abigail Cherkis
Morgan Fero*
Ted Gatchell
Gabriel Gowman
Victoria Hill
Emmy Jensen**
Evan Lehner*
Jenna Little
Zenobia Mares
Myley Martin
Nilay Patel
Leigh-Ann Rossette
Keaton Starks
Megan True
Sara Weber

Viola

Nils Anderson*
Kyla Caisip
Katherine Lee
Keylee Newman

Violincello

Carter Henderson-Cole
Louisa Collins*
Isabelle Hartley
Beckett Kohn*
Lan Nguyen
Noah Pacheco
Luke Parks
Alex Schalliol
Peter Sommitz
Lindsay Stotler
Alvaro Testa
Natalie Webb*

Bass

Anthony Fernandez*
Ella Paul

**concertmaster

*principal

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The UA Philharmonic

Creatures and Myths

J Alexander Bennett, conductor

Wednesday, April 29, 2026
Crowder Hall
7:30 p.m.



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PROGRAM

Apollon Musagète Igor Stravinsky (1882-1971)

First tableau

Prologue: The Birth of Apollo

Second tableau

Variation of Apollo

Pas d'action (Apollo and the Three Muses)

Variation of Calliope (the Alexandrine)

Variation of Polyhymnia

Variation of Terpsichore

Second Variation of Apollo

Pas de deux

Coda

Apotheosis

Giah Bush, Madeline Ahluwalia, violin
Jackson Hover, viola
Joshua Vierra, cello
Simon Missen, bass

Carnival of the Animals Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Introduction and Royal March of the Lion

Hens and Roosters

Wild Donkeys (Swift Animals)

Tortoises

The Elephant

Kangaroos

Aquarium

Characters with Long Ears

The Cuckoo in the Depths of the Woods

Aviary

Pianists

Fossils

The Swan

Finale

Drew Le Febvre, Natalie McLaren, piano
Kayla Blackburn, flute
Cameron Galvin, clarinet
Mitchell Allaman, mallets

ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR



J ALEXANDER BENNETT began his DMA in orchestral conducting at the University of Arizona School of Music in August 2023. He is conductor of the UA Philharmonic and is assistant conductor of the Arizona Symphony and UA Opera. Bennett received his MM in Orchestral Conducting, BM in Music Composition, and BA in Spanish Translation and Interpretation from Brigham Young University. He hails from Winchester, Virginia where he developed a love for music and was self-taught until college.

Bennett has studied and is active as a pianist, organist, choral conductor and musical theatre musician. At UA, he has served as music director for two opera productions, Michael Vince's *Hinterkaifeck* and Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. Bennett was also music director of BYU Opera's workshop of *Staggerwing*, working closely with Lisa DeSpain, and to which he contributed new orchestrations and rewrites.

As a composer, Bennett, with Amber Dahlberg, won the American Guild of Organists 2019 student commissioning project which resulted in a collaboration creating *Coccinella*, a 10-minute work for solo organ. He composed the underscoring for *Mary Stuart* and *A Wilder Night*, for which he was also music director, both productions of BYU Arts.

A 2024-25 Allentown Symphony Conducting Fellow, Bennett has conducted a variety of professional, community, and educational ensembles, including the BYU Wind Symphony, and the Saratoga Springs Symphony Orchestra. A father and husband, Bennett in the rare moment of free time, sews.