

Solid Gold Sound Club Newsletter

The official UCLA support organization for the UCLA Bruin Marching Band

Summer 2013

Football Season Opener 2014 at Virginia

The main focus of our Solid Gold Sound Club fundraising this fall will be to send a pep band of about 50 band members to the UCLA vs. Virginia football game in Charlottesville, Virginia, to open the 2014 UCLA football season. Possible side trips would include Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, and other sights around the Washington, D.C. area. This would be the first pep band trip back East for the Band during football season since the UCLA game at Knoxville, Tennessee, in 2009 (which UCLA won 19-15).



The iconic University of Virginia Rotunda.



Scott Stadium at the University of Virginia.

Scenes from the Holiday Bowl



Performing at the Broadway Pier with the USS Midway in the background



The snare drummers in the stands.



The final formation of the Band's Halftime Show



UCLA formation during the Band's Pregame Show



The drumline relaxing before the game

UCLA Bruin Marching Band opens for the Rolling Stones!

At the Los Angeles Staples Center on May 3, 2013, 54 members of the UCLA Bruin Marching Band performed their own arrangement of “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction” to open the first concert of the Rolling Stones “50 & Counting” North American tour. The Band’s appearance received wild applause from the live audience and favorable reviews from the press worldwide, including CNN, Reuters, the *China Post* (Taipei), the *Sun* (London), the *Chicago Tribune*, the *L.A. Times*, and *Rolling Stone* magazine, who described the Band’s version of “Satisfaction” as “remarkably funky.”

Trombonist Jordan Scharf said, “It was exhilarating to celebrate 50 years of Rock and Roll history with one of the greatest bands of all time,” and, according to trumpeter Josh Briggs, “The crowd was going crazy as we were playing and dancing in the aisles. The energy in the room was electric!”

After reviewing a video of the Band’s “Muse Show” from the fall 2010 season, lead singer Mick Jagger and Director of Choreography Kenny Ortega selected the UCLA Band for this event. The Bruin Marching Band rehearsed at the Staples Center the night before the concert with Mr. Ortega and his assistant, Choreographer Chucky Klapow.



Opening fanfare of “Satisfaction” with trumpeter Kimberlie Liang leading the way

Kenny Ortega with the trombones



Wardrobe stylist Soyon An gave the Band a “deconstructed” look that was appropriate for the occasion by replacing the Band’s uniform pants with black jeans and pinning the coats open to show off a black and gold Rolling Stones t-shirt.

Overall, this was one of the coolest gigs and most unforgettable moments in the history of the UCLA Bruin Marching Band. A video of the performance can be found at www.band.ucla.edu



Snare drummer Western Kramer



Sousaphonist Mack Dimler and trombonist Ben Thompson



Tenor saxophonist Kim Bowen



Cymbal player Cameron Lundy



Choreographer Chucky Klapow with band members following the performance

Alumni Spotlight

Ashwin Vasavada – Mission to Mars!

Ashwin Vasavada played tenor drums in the UCLA Bruin Marching Band from 1988 to 1992. As a member of the Band, he performed at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas and at the 1991 Percussion Arts Society International Convention competition in Anaheim.

As a member of the Sacramento Freelancers Drum and Bugle Corps while in high school, knowing the excellence of UCLA's marching band and drumline was a key part of his decision to attend UCLA. "I knew I was headed toward science as a major, but finding a school that had both great academics and an awesome music program was key for me. The band gave me a Clarence Sawhill scholarship, and I have to say, I was way more excited about band camp than the first day of class."

At UCLA, Ashwin studied Earth and Space Science while keeping active in music. In addition to the Marching Band, Ashwin played in the UCLA Wind Ensemble and Percussion Ensemble for four years. "I'm so grateful that UCLA's music programs are there for non-majors, too." One of Ashwin's favorite memories is being in the tunnels, starting the drum cadence, then entering the Rose Bowl with 100,000 screaming fans. "The drumline was like a second family. It got a little crazy at times, so I won't name names. I just look back and smile sometimes and think, 'yeah, that actually happened.'"

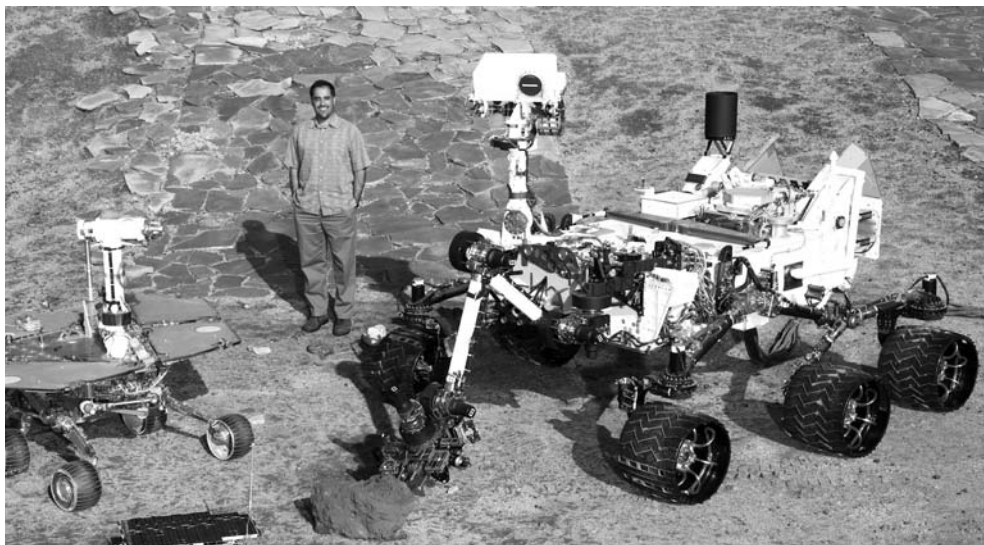
After graduating from UCLA with a B.S. in Geophysics and Space Physics, he continued his studies at Caltech and earned his Ph.D. in Planetary Science. His research centered around the weather and climate of the planets, including the possibility of polar ice caps on the Moon, and measurements of the winds on Jupiter and Saturn. In 2001–02, Ashwin worked for a year in Washington, D.C., as a Congressional Science Fellow sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He served as an aide to Rep. Vernon Ehlers, a former scientist and leading figure in national science policy. But the year took an unexpected turn. "On our second day of orientation, while we were at the Capitol, the events of 9/11 unfolded. We were evacuated and could see the fires burning at the Pentagon." After working in Congress, Ashwin returned to UCLA as an adjunct professor in the Earth and Space Science Department, teaching a seminar on science policy and a general education class on Mars exploration.

Since 2004, Ashwin has worked at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as the Deputy Project Scientist on the Mars Science Laboratory mission, with its rover, Curiosity. Curiosity touched down safely on August 5, 2012, as millions watched around the world. He helps lead an international team of over 400 scientists, with the goal of understanding whether Mars

ever had conditions suitable to life. As a spokesperson for the mission, he's been featured in the *L.A. Times* and on TV on National Geographic and NOVA.



Ashwin with the Mars Rover



Ashwin in the "Mars Yard," where the Rover runs through tests

Record Number of Performances!

From July 2012 to June 2013, the Band performed a record 113 times! Here is the complete list:

Football Regular Season Games (12)

- Home games – 8
- Away games – 2 (Cal, Arizona State)
- Pac 12 Championship game in Palo Alto 11/30/12
- Holiday Bowl game in San Diego 12/27/12

Men's Basketball Games (24)

- Regular Season Home games - 19
- Regular Season Away games – 1 (Anaheim)
- Pac 12 Championship games – 3 (Las Vegas, NV)
- NCAA Tournament game – 1 (Austin, TX)

Women's Basketball Games (20)

- Regular Season Home games - 15
- Pac 12 Championship games – 3 (Seattle, WA)
- NCAA Tournament games – 2 (Columbus, OH)

Olympic Sports (12)

- Men's Soccer 10/8/12
- Women's Soccer 10/28/12
- Women's Swimming 11/10/12
- Women's Volleyball 11/16/12
- Men's Water Polo 12/2/12
- Women's Gymnastics 1/12/13
- Men's and Women's Track and Field 4/6/13
- Men's Volleyball 4/12/13
- Women's Softball 4/13/13
- Men's Tennis 4/19/13
- Men's Volleyball 4/20/13
- Men's Baseball 5/12/13

Color Guard member Lauren Sevigny



Other Campus Events (24)

- Ten Summer Orientation performances throughout the summer of 2012
- UCLA Store Rally 9/26/12
- Pauley Pavilion Video Filming 10/15/12
- Women's Basketball Recruiting Event 10/19/12
- "Dribble For A Cure" Rally, Drake Stadium 10/21/12
- John Wooden Statue Unveiling 10/26/12
- Pauley Pavilion Donor Gala 10/28/12
- Parents Weekend, Wilson Plaza 11/2/12
- "New" Pauley Pavilion Student Opening 11/2/12
- Wooden Athletic Fund Event, Intramural Field 11/4/12
- Special Olympics 5K Run 11/11/12
- Ken Kragen's "Stardom Strategy" Class, Schoenberg Music Building 1/8/13
- Football Signing Day, Pauley Pavilion 2/6/13
- Bruin Day, Pauley Pavilion 4/13/13
- Baseball NCAA Championship Celebration, Jackie Robinson Stadium 6/27/13

Off Campus Events (21)

- Birthday Party, Santa Monica 7/22/12
- City Target Opening, Westwood Village 7/24/12
- Farmer's Insurance Event, Westin Hotel 8/14/12
- TOMS Shoes Event, Downtown L.A. 8/17/12
- Australian Business Event, SLS Hotel 8/25/12
- Pac 12 Media Event, The Grove, Beverly Hills 8/29/12
- Rose Bowl Bruins Rally, Pasadena 9/7/12
- Full Marching Band Exhibition Performance at Rowland High School Field Tournament 10/13/12
- Rotary Club Luncheon, Downtown L.A. 11/16/12
- Holiday Bowl Rally, San Diego Convention Center 12/26/12
- NCAA Commercial Filming, several locations in Los Angeles and Long Beach 2/19 and 21/13
- Turner Sports March Madness Event, Hollywood and Highland 3/17/13
- Baskin Robbins Drumline Performance, Buena Park 4/20/13
- Robotics Convention Closing Ceremony, Anaheim 4/20/13
- Spring Football Scrimmage, Rose Bowl 4/27/13
- Rolling Stones "Satisfaction" Recording Session, Sony Studios, Culver City 4/28/13
- Rolling Stones Concert Opening, Staples Center 5/3/13
- Citibank Dedication, Westwood Village 5/30/13
- Earthship Challenge Submarine Sendoff with James Cameron, California Science Center 6/1/13
- Anniversary Party, Encino 6/15/13

Band Alumni Reunion 2012

A record number of UCLA Band Alumni, over 210, participated in last fall's Reunion Halftime Show. Once again, ENORMOUS quantities of Adidas gear and other apparel were distributed to the participants after the rehearsal. A medley of beach music, "California Girls," "Wipeout," and "Surf City," was the featured song, and yes, the combined UCLA Band and alumni drummers played the famous drum solo on "Wipeout."

The Distance Award was presented to Faylisa Horton from Seoul, Korea, and Kevin Cayton, who is currently stationed in Okinawa, Japan. The Representative from the Earliest UCLA Class was presented to clarinetist Martin Shira, who was a member of the Band in 1948!



Drum major Kim Strutt leads the Band Alumni across the field



The Band Alumni playing the UCLA Fight Song



Distance Award Winner Faylisa Horton with Assistant Director Kelly Flickinger



Band Alumni piccolos



Distance Award Winner Kevin Cayton



Martin Shira, Class of 1948

Fall 2013 Season

The UCLA Bruin Marching Band begins its on-campus Band Camp on Saturday, September 14. The Band's first field performance will be at halftime of the UCLA vs. New Mexico State game on September 21, and then the Band will continue Band Camp the following Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

At the Cal game on October 12, the Band will present its Jazz Show, including music from the soundtrack of the movie *The Incredibles*, followed by "One More Time, Chuck Corea" and "Spanish Fantasy." The full Band will travel to the Stanford game in Palo Alto on October 19 but will not perform on the field due to the Stanford Band's celebration of their 50th Anniversary of becoming a "scatter" band that will take all of halftime.

At the Colorado game on November 2, the Band will present a salute to British Rock and Roll, starting with the arrangement of "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" that we performed at the opening of the Rolling Stones concert on May 3. This will be followed by music from the rock opera *Tommy* by The Who and closing with "Unnatural Selection" by the rock group Muse. For the Washington game on Friday, November 15, the Band will present a patriotic show, including Glenn Miller's arrangement of "American Patrol" featuring the saxophone section and "God Bless the USA" by Lee Greenwood.

High School Band Day will be presented at halftime of the Arizona State game on November 23. During Thanksgiving weekend, the Band will return to campus Friday, November 29, to rehearse for the USC game at the Coliseum the next day.



Feature twirler ReJoyce Green



Feature twirler Michelle Glymph



The Varsity Band at the "Dribble For The Cure" event at Drake Stadium



The pep band goes wild as the winning field goal goes through the uprights at the ASU game in Tempe



The trombones performing "Strike Up the Band"

New Wind Ensemble Conductor Travis J. Cross

UCLA welcomes Travis J. Cross as he begins his appointment as conductor of the UCLA Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band and director of the graduate program in wind conducting. Dr. Cross takes over from Dr. Thomas Lee, who served as conductor of the Wind Ensemble for 27 years until his retirement in 2012.

Dr. Cross earned doctor and master of music degrees in conducting from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and the bachelor of music degree *cum laude* in vocal and instrumental music education from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. His principal teachers were Mallory Thompson and Timothy Mahr.

As wind ensemble conductor for five years at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., Cross led students in performances at the Virginia Music Educators Association conference, Kennedy Center, and Carnegie Hall and developed the Virginia Tech Band Directors Institute into a major summer conducting workshop. Prior to graduate study, he taught for four years at Edina (Minn.) High School, where he conducted two concert bands and oversaw the marching band program. He currently serves as national vice president for professional relations for Kappa Kappa Psi, the national honorary band fraternity.

Cross contributed a chapter to volume four of *Composers on Composing for Band*, available from GIA Publications. His original works and arrangements for band, choir, and orchestra are published by Boosey & Hawkes, Daehn Publications, and Theodore Music. He has appeared as a guest conductor, composer, and clinician in several states, internationally, and at the Midwest Clinic and led honor bands and other ensembles in California, the District of Columbia, Iowa, New Jersey, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington State during the 2012–2013 season.



Blue Man Group performing the Star Spangled Banner with the UCLA drumline at the Utah game last fall

UCLA Band Program

Gordon Henderson
Director of Bands

Director of the Bruin Marching and Varsity Bands

Travis J. Cross
*Conductor of the Wind Ensemble and
Symphonic Band*

Kelly Flickinger
*Assistant Director of the Marching and
Varsity Bands*

Jeremy Whitt
*Assistant to the Director of the
Marching and Varsity Bands*

UCLA Bands

Box 951616
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1616
(310) 825-3835
www.band.ucla.edu
Email: uclaband@ucla.edu

Solid Gold Sound Club Board of Directors

Gary Bittner	Richard and Kathy Martin
Peter Dames	Robert Milford
Rebecca Gottlieb	Michael O'Gara
Michael Hanson	Mary Park
Nancy Ishiki	Jeff Pickett
Joe and Heidi Hardman	Matt Sonefeldt
Chris Holbert	Brad Sraberg
Rob Joyner	Kim Strutt
Brian Kushnir	Andrew Yonce
Ron Logan	